

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Natural Resources
Washington, DC 20515

June 11, 2019

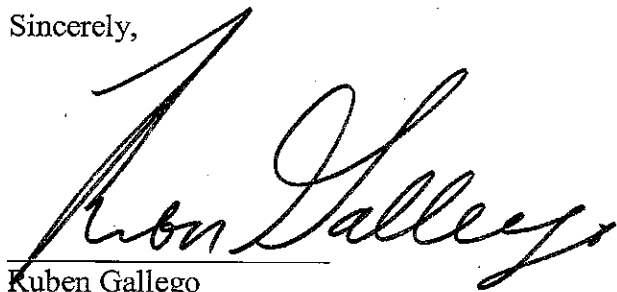
The Honorable Robert H. Smith
Chairman
Pala Band of Mission Indians
12196 Pala Mission Road
Pala, CA 92059

Dear Chairman Smith:

Thank you, again, for testifying before the Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples on H.R. 1031 on June 5th, 2019. As a follow-up to your testimony, please find enclosed additional questions submitted by members of the Committee for inclusion in the final hearing record. Please provide your written responses to: Naomi Miguel, Subcommittee Professional Staff, **no later than June 19, 2019**. Committee Rule 3(o) requiring responses within 10 business days of the last day of the hearing.

We appreciate your time and insight, and we remain grateful for your contribution to the Committee's work. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,



Ruben Gallego
Chairman
Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the U.S.

Questions from Representative Bishop

1. How long has your tribe sought to acquire the proposed Gregory Canyon landfill property?
2. Your testimony states that the tribe has no intention to develop the land described in H.R. 1031. Does the tribe have concerns including a provision in the bill that would provide for the protection of this sacred 700 acres from development in perpetuity? If so, please describe.
3. Your testimony states that the tribe is pursuing the legislative land in trust process due to the length of time the Administrative process takes. Do you believe the Administrative land into trust process is in need of reform, to ensure all tribes land into trust requests are completed in a fair and equitable process for all stakeholders?
4. As the tribe already owns the 700 acres, is there any other reason, beyond the land not being subject to taxation, that the land must be speedily placed into trust?