

Kathryn E. Reynolds

From: Laurie Thom <lthom@ypt-nsn.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 05, 2018 11:18 AM
To: chairman@wrpt.us; Bradley Crowell; mwilden@gov.nv.gov; cmdavis@gov.nv.gov
Cc: Alexis Strauss; Manzanilla.Enrique@epa.gov; Greg Lovato; Ginny Hatch; rfsaint@me.com; Dietrick McGinnis; Sarah Peters
Subject: RE: Invitation: Monday event at Anaconda

Dear Mr. Crowell,

I regret that late Friday, I indirectly learned of the Joint Commitment event scheduled for today, Monday February 5th, unfortunately neither I nor Ms. Hatch will be in town as we will be on travel status. This is due to the failure to extend a formal invitation and follow the established communication protocol for such meetings by advising Ginny Hatch, Environmental Director of the Yerington Paiute Tribe. Ms. Hatch has always been the Anaconda Mine direct contact for the Yerington Paiute Tribe. She makes arrangements with my office to coordinate meetings, events and review all correspondence to and from the Chairman and Tribal Council. This lapse in the established communication channels makes going forward Today impossible.

Due to the Yerington Paiute Tribe requesting formal Government-to-Government Consultations between Governor Sandoval, since December of 2016 and Secretary Pruitt on January 25, 2018 to the Region IX staff and Alexis Strauss, we believe that the Joint Commitment is premature and it strong-arms the Tribe.

For true Government-to-Government Consultation, there must be adequate time to convene the full Yerington Paiute Tribal Council. A photo Op for a deferral announcement, that we are not in agreement with; before all thresholds have been satisfied and before true consultation; falls short of EPA's Trust Responsibility to the Tribe. The document between EPA and NDEP in the absence of adequate and committed funding and oversight by the Tribe is harmful to the Tribe's Sovereign Rights. We are extremely hurt by this slight, lack of proper communication and disrespect for tribal protocol.

Although it has not been relayed to us by your offices, we were given alternative information that Governor Sandoval and Secretary Pruitt may be at today's event, again if this is the case we were not properly notified or invited.

While we will continue to seek the opportunity to properly consult with the EPA Administrator and Nevada Governor, it will need to follow proper tribal protocol and will need to be at a time properly arranged and mutually acceptable to all parties in the future.