December 16, 2005

Dear Reader:

Enclosed for your review and comment is the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) of the Coyote Business Park near Mission, Oregon. The project is being proposed by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. The Bureau of Indian Affairs is the lead federal agency, and the Bonneville Power Administration is a cooperating agency for this Environmental Impact Statement.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement analyzes the impacts from construction of a light industrial and commercial business park on a 520 (+/-) acre site south of Interstate 84 at Exit 216 and west of South Market Road, approximately seven miles east of Pendleton, Oregon on the Umatilla Indian Reservation. The first phase of the proposed development would be construction of infrastructure for the Coyote Business Park including domestic water service, sanitary sewer service, storm water drainage systems, access roads, and utilities. This phase would also involve the replacement of power support structures on the high-voltage Bonneville Power Administration line that crosses the site. Specific details vary with each of the four action alternatives. The second phase of the proposed action would be to construct and operate business facilities on the lots. Anticipated light industrial operations would include warehousing, distribution, and assembly of previously manufactured components. The DEIS addresses issues and concerns raised during the public scoping period.

WEBSITE ADDRESS FOR PROJECT

Public comments concerning the adequacy and accuracy of the DEIS will be accepted for a 45 day period, until January 30, 2006. Comments must be submitted in writing to: Jerry Lauer, Acting Superintendent, Umatilla Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs, P.O. Box 520, 46807 B Street, Pendleton, Oregon, 97801.

Due to a delay in the printing schedule, the DEIS is dated August 2005 although it was not printed and distributed until October 2005. Due to technical difficulties encountered in the printing process, certain pictures in the printed version of the DEIS had to be retaken in September 2005 and differ from the pictures in the CD version. The photos were taken from the same locations, but angle and vegetation cover may vary.
A Public Meeting to accept verbal and written comments is scheduled for the date below at 7:00 PM.

January 30, 2006   Tamastslikt Cultural Institute, 72789 Highway 331, Pendleton, Oregon

If you would like to obtain additional information, please call me at (541) 278-3786.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEARING
JANUARY 19, 2006 at 7 PM
TAMASTSLIKT CULTURAL INSTITUTE

Sincerely,

Jerry L. Laws

Acting Superintendent