

September 29, 2003

Governor Ted Kulongoski State Capital Room 160 900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301-4047

Dear Governor Kulongoski:

The Hood River County Chamber of Commerce believes the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs will build a casino in the Columbia River Gorge. We also believe the best place to site such a casino is in the City of Cascade Locks.

Our community greatly appreciates your efforts with the recent Cardinal Glass project, and your visits here to witness first hand our economic situation. We know you and your staff are well aware of the issues of high unemployment and low per capita income in Hood River County.

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs projects building a casino in the Gorge will create an estimated 500 jobs, at higher-than-average wage for Hood River County. Added to the year-round tourism attraction a casino would create, they are compelling arguments for your approval of the casino proposal. Consideration for the negative impact of siting a casino east of Hood River, in the sensitive area of the Historic Columbia River Highway – next to the Mark O. Hatfield Preserve – must also be made as you reach your decision on this important issue.

For all the above reasons, the Hood River County Chamber of Commerce wishes to express our support for the City of Cascade Locks' efforts to site a tribal casino in their community.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this issue.

With best regards,

Craig Schmidt
Executive Director