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February 23, 2015

The Honorable Sally Jewell  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Jewell,

I write to you today concerning H.R. 308, "The Keep the Promise Act of 2015" (there is also an identical Senate companion bill, S. 152).

H.R. 308 is a successor to legislation from the 113th Congress (H.R. 1410). Like its predecessor, H.R. 308 would prevent class II and class III gaming activity, as defined by the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, on certain lands owned by the Tohono O'odham Nation in Maricopa County between the cities of Glendale and Peoria.

I am requesting the Department of Interior's views on this proposed legislation.

The Department repeatedly has testified in opposition to the predecessor legislation, expressing concerns that the legislation would violate a nearly thirty-year old land and water rights settlement with a federally recognized Indian tribe. A crucial difference with H.R. 308, however, is that the Nation's land is now held in trust by the United States and is part of the Tohono O'odham Nation's reservation.

As the Ranking Member on the House Natural Resources Committee, I want to ensure that all the committee members have a full understanding of the potential impact of H.R. 308. Please provide me with the updated views of the Department on this legislation, as well as the latest developments on the issue. A prompt response to my inquiry would be greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to direct them to Chris Kaumo of my staff at [chris.kaumo@mail.house.gov](mailto:chris.kaumo@mail.house.gov) or at (202) 225-6065. I want to thank the Department of Interior for the great work it does on behalf of the United States to live up to our solemn trust responsibility to Indian tribes.

Sincerely,



Raul M. Grijalva  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Natural Resources