



Board of Directors:

Melvin R Sheldon Jr - Chairman
Marie Zackuse - Vice Chairman
Les Parks - Treasurer
Bonnie Juneau - Secretary
Glen Gobin, Ti Cex- Council Member
Theresa Sheldon - Council Member
Herman Williams, Leib Sil Teed - Council Member

6406 Marine Dr.
Tulalip, WA 98271-9694
(360) 716-4500
FAX (360) 716-0628

The Tualip Tribes are the successors in interest to the Snohomish, Snoqualmie, and Skykomish tribes and other tribes and band signatory to the Treaty of Point Elliott

Misty Napeahi- Tribal Government General Manager

March 23, 2016

Bill Blake, Chair
Implementation Committee
Snohomish-Stillaguamish LIO
c/o Snohomish County
3000 Rockefeller Avenue
Everett, WA 98201

Dear Mr. Blake,

The Tualip Tribes would like to comment on a recent proposal to recommend adjustments to the Snohomish-Stillaguamish Local Integrating Organization (LIO) Executive Committee membership. Last month, the Snoqualmie Tribe requested a seat at the Executive Committee as a recommendation from the LIO Implementation committee.

Tualip feels that it is beyond the role of the Implementation committee to advocate or recommend membership on the Executive committee. Although we value their expertise and efforts on the implementation committee, the Snoqualmie Tribe needs to contact the Executive Committee directly with this request.

However, it is our understanding that the Executive committee was intentionally comprised of representatives of tribal and local governments with jurisdiction and legal interests within the watersheds. It is for this reason that Tualip has not supported past requests by the Snoqualmie Tribe for Executive committee membership and cannot support this current request.

It is important to recognize that the Tualip Tribes holds treaty rights as successor to the treaty Snohomish, Snoqualmie and Skykomish tribes. The Tualip Tribes is the only Indian tribe with federally adjudicated off-reservation usual and accustomed treaty fishing rights in the entire Snohomish-Snoqualmie-Skykomish river drainage basin. The Tualip Tribes also holds treaty rights in the Stillaguamish basin with the Stillaguamish tribe. The Snoqualmie Tribe does not hold treaty rights and their jurisdiction is limited to their reservation lands.

Sincerely,

Melvin R. Sheldon, Jr.

cc. Mary Hurner, Snohomish County