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KITTITAS COUNTY
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Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation
Established by the Treaty of June 9, 1855

Post Office Box 151
Toppenish Washington 98948

Mackenzie Moynihan
Kittitas County Community Development Services
411 N. Ruby St., Suite 2
Ellensburg, WA 98926

September 23, 2008

Subject: Notice of Application: Airport Heights Rezone (RZ-08-00009) and Preliminary Plat (LP-08-00026)

Dear Ms. Moynihan,

Thank you for contacting the Yakama Nation Cultural Resource Program regarding the above noted Application for a Rezone and Short Plat. This project falls within the ceded lands of the Yakama Nation, defined as the usual and accustomed areas and places utilized by the ancestors of the Yakama People for the gathering of foods, medicines, and ceremonial purposes. These legal rights are outlined in the Treaty of 1855 between the Yakama Nation and the United States government. Just as in the past, these lands and their resources continue to fulfill a central role in the culture of members of the Yakama Nation in the present, and will continue to do so in the future.

The proposed development entails the division of approximately 24.36 acres into a 14 lot preliminary plat located east of the City of Cle Elum, north of Airport Road, off Danko Road, Cle Elum within a portion of the NW ¼ of Section 30, Township 20N, Range 16E.

We have reviewed the project in terms of its potential for adverse impacts to the environmental resources, sacred areas, traditional cultural properties and archaeological properties of the area. It is our belief that the proposed project is occurring within an area (roughly 1 mile from the Yakima River) which has a relatively high potential for cultural sites and other cultural resources. The intensive use of the Yakima River and adjacent lands by the Native American people of the region is well documented in both oral histories and within the archaeological record. Given the potential for cultural resource sites at this locale, we recommend that the site be professionally surveyed for cultural/archaeological resources.

Please contact me at 1-509-865-5121 ext. 4737 or tribal archaeologist Dave Woody at ext. 4760 if you have any questions regarding the above recommendation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Johnson Meninick', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Johnson Meninick,
Yakama Nation Cultural Resources Program Manager

CC: Gretchen Kaehler, Assistant State Archaeologist, Washington State Department of
Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP)

Kate Valdez, Yakama Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO)