

Exhibit 4:

May 13, 2021 Summit Lake Letter to BLM





## SUMMIT LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE

Primary Administrative Office

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## SUMMIT LAKE PAIUTE COUNCIL

Chairwoman: Randi Lone Eagle • Vice-Chairperson: Nedra Crane

Secretary/Treasurer: Eugene Mace Sr. • Council Member: Philip Frank • Council Member: Steven Crane

May 13, 2021

Kathleen Rehberg, Field Manager  
Bureau of Land Management Humboldt River Field Office  
5100 East Winnemucca Blvd.  
Winnemucca, NV 86445

Re: Summit Lake Paiute Tribe Comments on Historic Properties Treatment Plan for Lithium Nevada Thacker Pass project

Dear Ms. Rehberg:

The Summit Lake Paiute Tribe submits the following comments for public record and consideration by the Bureau of Land Management Humboldt River Field Office regarding the letter received on April 15, 2021 requesting comments within 30 days of receipt on the Historic Properties Treatment Plan (HPTP) for the Lithium Nevada Thacker Pass project (Project).

The ancestral lands of the Summit Lake Paiute Tribe extend well beyond the boundaries of the Summit Lake Reservation, which were drawn on a map over 100 years ago with little thought or consideration for the needs, customs, or cultures of the Tribe being forced to live there and with absolutely no input from the people under consideration. To this end, the Tribe's interest in and concern over the handling of archeological and cultural sites extends to the sites in question under the HPTP for the Project.

It is not the practice of this Tribe to reveal to outsiders the locations of specific places that are held sacred to our members for cultural and religious reasons. However, it should be enough to the Bureau of Land Management that the area where the Project is planned for implementation is within the traditional homeland of the Summit Lake Paiute Tribe and the Tribe strongly opposes the execution of any activities where cultural resources may be disturbed, including those listed.

It is disappointing that the April 14 letter requesting this information is coming after decisions have already been made to move forward with the project. The project itself had a poor track record of public notification and involvement, and its approval was pushed through at the last minute by an outgoing administration. This feels more like "checking the box" of informing



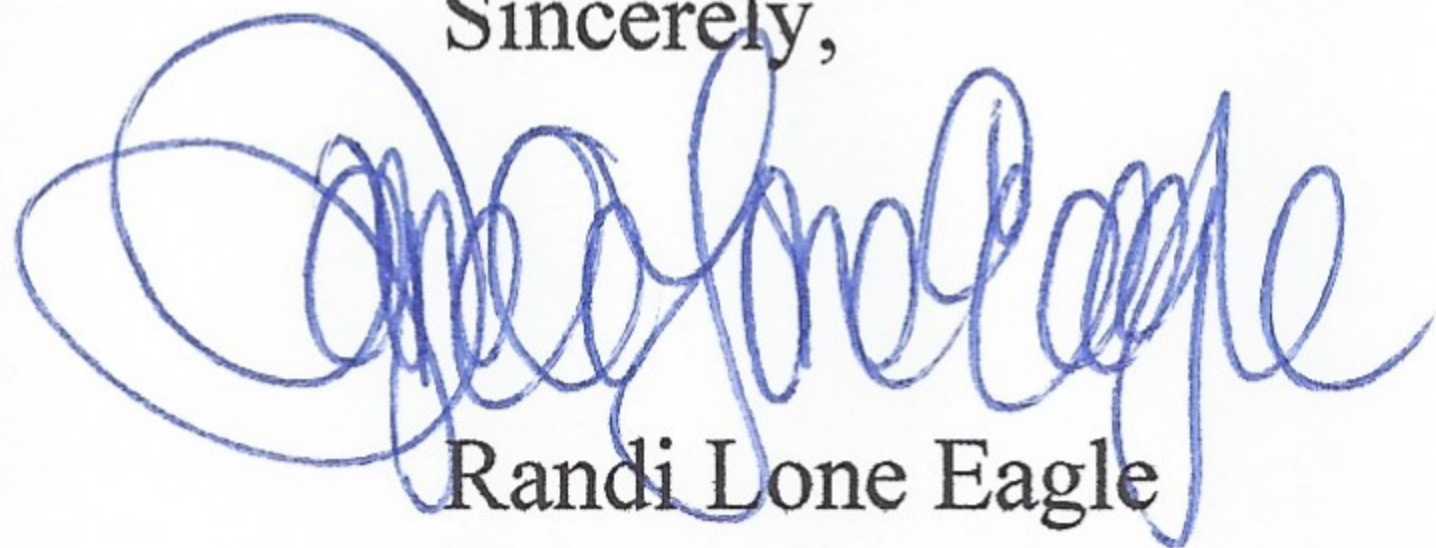
tribes, rather than the true spirit of the law regarding cooperation and coordination with tribal entities as sovereign nations with an historic and cultural interest in the project area.

By now the Bureau of Land Management should know that Tribes often lack the internal capacity and resources to adequately review documents and provide substantive feedback, especially within the short timeframes allotted. As a result, they are often left out of the picture and this instance was no different. Requesting comments within 30 days on a document that is so detailed and complex is an unreasonable expectation.

The Summit Lake Paiute Tribe would like to request formal consultation on the Project's HPTP and looks forward to additional meetings in the future regarding this topic. Please contact me to arrange this either at my email of [Randi.Loneeagle@summitlaketribe.org](mailto:Randi.Loneeagle@summitlaketribe.org) or by telephone at

775-827-9670.

Sincerely,



Randi Lone Eagle

Summit Lake Paiute Council Chairwoman