

## **Request for Proposal for Legal Assistance**

### **Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians**

The Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians solicits proposals from qualified law firms to serve as Special Counsel to the Band and its enterprises, in accordance with the requirements set out below.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians is a federally-recognized Indian Tribe based near Healdsburg, California. Its reservation consists of 75 acres with some additional acreage in trust between Healdsburg and Geyserville, California, approximately 70 miles north of San Francisco. The Band owns and operates the River Rock Casino, the Alexander Valley Campground and is interested in developing other economic ventures. The Band is governed by a Board of Directors elected by its general membership.

#### **SCOPE OF WORK**

The Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians seeks proposals from qualified law firms to provide a broad range of legal services encompassed in the role of Special Counsel, including but not limited to assistance related to: gaming development and regulation; economic development; real estate purchase and development; experience and expertise in SEC filings; gaming and economic development financing; governmental and tax-exempt financing; federal, state and tribal tax advice planning and compliance; business structuring and diversification; contract negotiation; environmental and land use regulations; construction law; and other matters as directed by the Board of Directors.

#### **QUALIFICATIONS**

Qualified law firms will include those with a minimum of ten (10) years experience providing services to Indian tribes and having extensive knowledge in all areas of federal Indian law, with an emphasis on: gaming and economic development, construction, finance, and tax. Firms should have a demonstrated history of commitment to and representation of Indian Tribes and their interests in California. The firm's attorneys to be assigned to this work should be licensed to practice law in California and must be in good standing with the State Bar. The Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians places a high value on a demonstrated track record of legal representation of Tribal interests. The selected law firm will work under the direction of the Board of Directors and Tribal staff. Qualified firms should have the ability to provide on-site legal services at the request of the Board of Directors. Selection will depend on the negotiation of a mutually-acceptable contract between the firm and the Band.

#### **PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS**

A proposal must contain the following:

- a. A cover letter describing the law firm's background and history and a statement of reasons why the firm is particularly well suited to provide services to the Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians.

- b. A list of key personnel who would work on the Band's matters and their qualifications, titles, experience and bar membership.
- c. A description of the firm's experience in federal Indian law and, in particular, experience representing California Indian Tribes in gaming and economic development matters, including a description of ongoing or successfully completed economic development and gaming projects in California.
- d. A description of the firm's experience in working with Indian Tribes on finance and tax matters, including project financing, governmental or tax exempt bond financing, leasing transactions, traditional loans, lines of credit, and regulatory compliance.
- e. A description of the firm's experience in working with Indian Tribes, including federal and state governments and regulatory agencies.
- f. A proposed fee structure, including detailed information concerning rates for the services of partners, associates, non-attorney law clerks, paralegals and other paraprofessionals; and a description of how expenses will be billed.
- g. Disclosure of any potential conflict of interest which may arise from current or former representation of any client or legal interest.

## **DEADLINES**

The following timetable schedule will apply:

Request for Proposal Issued: June 13, 2011

Proposal Due: July 22, 2011, by 5 pm PDT.

Interviews with Finalists: week of August 1, 2011

Selection: September 17, 2011

## **PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL AND INQUIRIES**

Please submit the proposal in electronic format only to:

Steve Smith, 275 Highway 1258 East, Geyserville, CA 95441, 707- 857-1217,  
[ssmith@drycreekrancheria.com](mailto:ssmith@drycreekrancheria.com)

All inquiries should be directed to Steve Smith at the email address above. No telephone