



Walker River Paiute Tribe

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April 8, 2020

Robert Eben, Superintendent
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Western Nevada Agency
311 East Washington Street
Carson City, NV 89701

RE: Financial Assistance for Irrigation Operation and Maintenance Charges for the Walker River Indian Irrigation Project

Dear Superintendent Eben,

Farming and ranching enterprises and activities on the Walker River Indian Reservation have been a primary economic mainstay on the reservation since reservation formation and play a major role in the social, cultural and economic well-being of our Indian community.

Marketing prices for the primary commodities of cattle and hay have been on a downward spiral for the last two years. This has put the reservation farming and ranching enterprises in a survival mode with farmers and ranchers hoping to produce enough income to make another year. The COVID 19 Pandemic outbreak has added to this situation by pushing the prices of agriculture products on the reservation even further downward and has created a situation of uncertainty that no one knows when a return to normal is expected.

Because of the above identified facts and concerns the Walker River Paiute Tribe is requesting financial assistance from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to cover the portion paid by Indian operators for Irrigation Operation and Maintenance charges for the Walker River Indian Irrigation Project for the 2020 operational year. This will aid in the sustainability of the farming and ranching enterprises and activities on our reservation. Thank you for your serious consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Amber Torres'.

Amber Torres, Tribal Chairman
WALKER RIVER PAIUTE TRIBE

cc: Gerry Emm, Deputy Superintendent – BIA WNA