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*Sent via USPS & Electronic Mail*

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*RE: Request for Extension of time for Craig Tribal Association CUP Marijuana Retail Establishment Condition No. 7*

Dear Honorable Members of the City of Craig Planning Commission,

My firm represents the Craig Tribal Association in the capacity of applying for a retail marijuana store license. We are contacting you today to request an extension to Condition No. 7 on the Conditional Use Permit that was voted on and approved August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

As per the Approved Conditional Use Permit, Resolution, Condition No. 7, requires the applicant to have all required licenses and approvals associated with the business within 12 months and be in operation within 18 months. Unfortunately, and of no fault of Craig Tribal Association, the current Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office (“AMCO”) has suffered severe staff overturn in addition to a complete liquor Title 4 re-write recently approved by the State’s legislature (Session 2022) and has nearly a yearlong backlog of marijuana related applications in queue for AMCO review and processing.

In addition to the Title 4 rewrite, staff shortages, marijuana new licenses in queue, the same AMCO staff is also tasked with processing hundreds of marijuana and liquor license renewals, operating plan changes, diagram changes, and new marijuana product submissions. For an understaffed and underfunded department with a considerably heavier workload than in recent years, the delay of processing new license applications is understandable. In addition to AMCO review, the marijuana retail license must also be considered and reviewed by the Marijuana Control Board (“MCB”) which only meets on a quarterly basis. As of the date of this letter, AMCO examiners are reviewing regular applications (non-renewal or special regulation change forms) submitted **in May of 2022**. With the Craig Tribal Association’s retail application being approximately 41<sup>st</sup> in the new/transfer queue, awaiting review, we can reasonably anticipate that the application will not make the March or June 2023 MCB agenda to get the approval of this



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license application, and the next MCB meeting would not be until September 2023, which is after the August 25, 2023, Planning Commission deadline to satisfy Condition No. 7 of the CUP.

Due to the AMCO backlog it is highly unlikely that the board will review the retail application for Craig Tribal Association until, at minimum, December 2023 or their first meeting in 2024 (Date is unknown as of now). We understand the importance of timely compliance with the requirements set forth by the City of Craig, and we regret that these unforeseen circumstances that are outside of Craig Tribal Association's control have caused this delay.

If we could be included in a Planning Commission agenda when it's convenient to the Planning Commission to discuss this situation with the Honorable Planning Commission members and consider our request for a reasonable extension to Condition No. 7 we would be very grateful for that opportunity.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Truly and Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jana D. Weltzin', is written over the typed name. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jana D. Weltzin, Esq.