

June 13, 2025

HAND DELIVERY

Tribal Council Chairman Mike Parker  
Cherokee Council House  
Cherokee, North Carolina 28719

**Formal Notice of Protest of Resolution 491 (2025)**  
**EBCI Code § 117-40**

Chairman Parker,

The purpose of this letter is to formally protest Resolution 491 (2025), which authorizes the purchase of two parcels of land (603-A and 603-B) totaling 9.41 acres by the Tribe for \$210,000. The purpose of this purchase is to construct and locate a meat packing facility.

I am an interested party (§ 117-40(a))

EBCI Code § 117-40 gives an “interested party” the right to protest any decision of Tribal Council. I am an interested party because I own property adjacent to the Parcels and will suffer a direct adverse effect to my property interests because of this decision. At a minimum, the meat-packing facility will pollute my property with terrible smells and sounds. This is not acceptable.

The protest is timely (§ 117-40(b))

EBCI Code § 117-40(b) requires me to submit a written protest to the Tribal Council Chairman within ten calendar days following the decision that is being protested. Because Resolution 491 was passed on June 5, 2025, my protest is timely.

Resolution 491 directly and adversely impacts my property interests (§ 117-40(b))

Here are the specific reasons that I protest:

- As previously stated, my property is next to the Parcels and the proposed meat-packing facility. The smells and sounds from the facility will infect and pollute my use and enjoyment of my property and render my property uninhabitable. It will also pollute the waterways.
- No one from Tribal government or any agencies ever consulted me about the possibility of a meat-packing plant. I have a right to be informed about such matters so that Tribal Council can have all available information when they decide to act. Tribal Council did not hear from me because I was in the dark on this until after the vote.

- Resolution 491 contains various attachments: title search report, environmental review, THPO statement; GIS aerial. However, Resolution 491 states that the "purchase" of the Parcels will not cause a negative impact. But it is not the "purchase" of the Parcels that is the problem. The problem is the construction of the meat-packing facility, which will absolutely cause multiple issues. Reviews by agencies need to study the meat-packing facility, not just the purchase of the Parcels. This has not happened.
- Relatedly, the EBCI Department of Natural Resources conducted an environmental review of the Parcels. This review states that: "This Review is an informal review of the above-mentioned parcels. Prior to development Formal consultations with all Federal Agencies and Tribal Departments will need to be conducted." Multiple such consultations are required (U.S. Dept. of Interior; U.S. Dept of Agriculture; U.S. Dept of Fish and Wildlife, etc.) and have not yet occurred. **No agency, federal or Tribal, has properly considered the impact of a meat-packing facility.**
- As specifically noted in the Ownership Statement for Painttown Community Parcel No. 603-A and 603-B, as of May 22, 2025, the legal descriptions for these Parcels have not been located.

Written resolution (§ 117-40(c))

I have included below the text of a written resolution of the action I seek from Tribal Council.

Resolution 491 (2025) is amended as follows:

**WHEREAS**, the properties are unimproved lots of wooded land [*and would be purchased for the purpose of constructing a meat packing facility*]; and

The purpose of this protest is not to delay implementation of legislation. I do not oppose the Tribe purchasing the Parcels. I oppose the construction of a meat-packing facility on the Parcels.

Alternatively, I propose a complete repeal of Resolution 491.

Moreover, I am not alone in my protest. Other persons who would be negatively impacted want to make their voices heard as well.

Regina Ledford Rosario  
Painttown

