

Form emailed March 1, 2020

Dear Senator Daines and Staff:

Your last letter emailed to me 2-25-2020 stated in part that "The Montana Water Rights Protection Act protects Montanans' due process by giving them access to state courts over water disputes between tribal and non-tribal members."

This is not a solution to the problem as it shifts the burden of defense upon the property owners. Litigation is extremely expensive and most property owners cannot afford this luxury. The CSKT tribe has 20 some lawyers funded full time with subsidized money paid for by the tax payers. No single property owner or a group of property owners could afford to fight this many attorneys. Please read the following article linked entitled "Courts".

<https://westernmtwaterrights.wordpress.com/courts/>

Why don't we use the People's Compact which was a counter proposal by those impacted by the current terrible CSKT compact?

Jack Venrick