

MESCALERO, N.M.

The Mescalero Apache Tribe and the Sunland Park racetrack and casino are opposing Jemez Pueblo's proposal to build a casino and hotel near Anthony, which is nearly 300 miles from the northern New Mexico pueblo.

The Mescaleros and the Sunland Park track issued

a statement on Wednesday saying the Jemez casino could hurt their businesses in southern New Mexico. The Mescaleros also object that the casino is proposed within their ancestral homelands.

Jemez is partnering with Santa Fe art dealer Gerald Peters.

The casino was rejected in 2008 by President George Bush's administration because the proposed site was too far from Jemez, which is near Albuquerque.

However, the Interior Department under President Barack Obama is reconsidering the Jemez casino plan.

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