



# County of Yuba District Supervisor

Andy Vasquez  
District One  
Yuba County Government Center  
915 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 109, Marysville,  
California 95901  
(530) 749-7510 Fax (530) 749-7353

---

September 29, 2015

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator  
331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington D.C., 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein:

As a member of the Yuba County Board of Supervisors, I write to express my continued opposition to the proposed off-reservation tribal casino to be located in Yuba County, California and to update you on new and concerning developments in this area.

As you will recall, although the Enterprise Rancheria has existing, gaming-eligible land in Butte County, the tribe is seeking an off-reservation casino in Yuba County. The tribe nearly succeeded by using the "two part determination" process, however, the State Legislature failed to act on the State-Tribal gaming compact that is required to authorize Las Vegas style Class III gaming, presumably in part because of the opposition voiced by the public to Proposition 48. After that election, I thought our community had finally closed the book on this unwanted casino development.

Unfortunately, news was received earlier this summer that the tribe now intends to circumvent the tribal-state compacting process by opening a Class II casino on the site. After an initial period of disbelief, I came to understand that unlike a Class III casino, the State of California has no role in approving or overseeing the operation of Class II facilities. Therefore, the tribe can now move forward with its casino notwithstanding the local opposition.

Considering modern Class II and Class III facilities are almost indistinguishable, I still anticipate significant off-reservation impacts. In a brief letter and site plan provided by Enterprise on August 31, 2015, the tribe informed that it planned to use its 40-acre site for a casino with 1,200 slot machines and table games. Construction is to begin as soon as October 31, 2015. This comes as a surprise because the County has yet to receive some of the most basic deliverables mutually agreed upon between ourselves and the Tribe, including a prevailing wage ordinance, building standards, and waste water treatment plans.

Perhaps most shockingly, despite the disastrous drought and fires in our area, Enterprise has not disclosed how it intends to supply water for consumption and fire suppression, nor has it reached an agreement with the fire district, the Sheriff, or EMS to provide critical emergency services to the area.

I am dismayed that after the voters of Yuba County voted against this project and the Legislature did not ratify the compact, the local community still has no ability to influence this project, has not received payments from the Tribe, and is being kept in the dark about exactly what the Tribe plans, and when.

I know you share my deep concern about the impact of major casino developments on local communities, particularly those that are located far from existing tribal trust lands, and ask for your assistance in making sure that Tribes that use the promise of economic benefit to induce support for a Class III facility do not then substitute a Class II facility for the Class III facility originally promised. Put simply, this loophole cuts local and state governments out of the decision making process and ensures that major casinos can be constructed and operated outside of the normal regulatory process.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to working with you to protect Yuba County.

Sincerely,

  
Andy Vasquez



# County of Yuba District Supervisor

Andy Vasquez  
District One  
Yuba County Government Center  
915 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 109, Marysville,  
California 95901  
(530) 749-7510 Fax (530) 749-7353

---

September 29, 2015

The Honorable Doug LaMalfa  
322 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman LaMalfa:

As a member of the Yuba County Board of Supervisors, I write to express my continued opposition to the proposed off-reservation tribal casino to be located in Yuba County, California and to update you on new and concerning developments in this area.

As you will recall, although the Enterprise Rancheria has existing, gaming-eligible land in Butte County, the tribe is seeking an off-reservation casino in Yuba County. The tribe nearly succeeded by using the "two part determination" process, however, the State Legislature failed to act on the State-Tribal gaming compact that is required to authorize Las Vegas style Class III gaming, presumably in part because of the opposition voiced by the public to Proposition 48. After that election, I thought our community had finally closed the book on this unwanted casino development.

Unfortunately, news was received earlier this summer that the tribe now intends to circumvent the tribal-state compacting process by opening a Class II casino on the site. After an initial period of disbelief, I came to understand that unlike a Class III casino, the State of California has no role in approving or overseeing the operation of Class II facilities. Therefore, the tribe can now move forward with its casino notwithstanding the local opposition.

Considering modern Class II and Class III facilities are almost indistinguishable, I still anticipate significant off-reservation impacts. In a brief letter and site plan provided by Enterprise on August 31, 2015, the tribe informed that it planned to use its 40-acre site for a casino with 1,200 slot machines and table games. Construction is to begin as soon as October 31, 2015. This comes as a surprise because the County has yet to receive some of the most basic deliverables mutually agreed upon between ourselves and the Tribe, including a prevailing wage ordinance, building standards, and waste water treatment plans.

Perhaps most shockingly, despite the disastrous drought and fires in our area, Enterprise has not disclosed how it intends to supply water for consumption and fire suppression, nor has it reached an agreement with the fire district, the Sheriff, or EMS to provide critical emergency services to the area.

I am dismayed that after the voters of Yuba County voted against this project and the Legislature did not ratify the compact, the local community still has no ability to influence this project, has not received payments from the Tribe, and is being kept in the dark about exactly what the Tribe plans, and when.

I know you share my deep concern about the impact of major casino developments on local communities, particularly those that are located far from existing tribal trust lands, and ask for your assistance in making sure that Tribes that use the promise of economic benefit to induce support for a Class III facility do not then substitute a Class II facility for the Class III facility originally promised. Put simply, this loophole cuts local and state governments out of the decision making process and ensures that major casinos can be constructed and operated outside of the normal regulatory process.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to working with you to protect Yuba County.

Sincerely,



Andy Vasquez