

Dale Morris, Regional Director
Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pacific Region
2800 Cottage Way
Room W-2820
Sacramento, CA 95825

Via Fax: September 4, 2010
(916) 978-6099

September 4, 2010

RE: Enterprise Rancheria casino EIS comments

Dear Mr. Morris,

My name is Steve Enos, I'm a land use and environmental planner and the Director of "Grass Valley Neighbors" (GVN), just "up the hill" from Yuba County in Grass Valley. GVN is a group of Grass Valley area residents that share a common interest in issues of land use, development and the environment that have the potential to impact residents of Grass Valley, Nevada County and the region.

Grass Valley Neighbors is especially concerned about air quality impacts to our area. Grass Valley is designated "non-attainment" for ozone and most of Grass Valley's ozone is "transported" from the northern Sacramento valley. In addition to ozone, particulate matter and other toxic air pollutants are transported into our area from the Sacramento valley area.

Ozone has many negative health impacts. High ozone levels reduce the elasticity of our lungs and cause breathing problems, burning eyes, sore throats and headaches. Ozone has been connected with the development of asthma and decreased lung function. Children, the elderly, individuals with heart and lung ailments and people exercising outdoors are especially affected. Ozone also damages rubber, paint, plastics and plants, reducing vegetable yields and timber productivity. Nearly half of California's ozone is from car and truck exhaust.

Due to the health impacts of transport air pollution we are very concerned about proposed, large scale development projects that have the potential to generate large volumes of new vehicle traffic. Increased vehicle traffic in Yuba County means higher ozone levels and degraded air quality here in Grass Valley.

The proposed Enterprise casino in Yuba County would be a large "out of area" traffic generator that has the potential to decrease air quality here in Grass Valley. As a result the proposed casino project in Yuba County must undertake a comprehensive and meaningful environmental review to identify potential impacts and possible mitigation measures to address impacts and safeguard the health of the public before a decision is made. The proposed Yuba County casino has the potential to impact the environment and the people living in Grass Valley and western Nevada County. These potential project impacts must be considered, identified and responded to in the EIS review. The proposed EIS fails to review, consider or mitigate these potential impacts as required.

On behalf of Grass Valley Neighbors I have reviewed the proposed FEIS, its related documents and the DEIS and comments and responses provided for review at

www.enterpriseEIS.com. Attached you will find our comments on the proposed FEIS for the proposed Yuba County Enterprise casino.

I have been a professional land use and environmental planner for over twenty years. I have worked in the public, private and NGO sectors and have been qualified to provide expert testimony in the areas of land use, environmental impacts and land use policy. I am submitting these comments to the public record for the FEIS review/determination process and ask that they be considered as “expert opinion”.

The two principal areas of concern is the lack of adequate review and adequate mitigation measures for air quality impacts and the reliance on the Yuba County-Enterprise Rancheria MOU to mitigate impacts. It’s important to note the Yuba-Enterprise MOU was undertaken without CEQA review.

We have attached our detailed comments on the propose FEIS for the Enterprise Rancheria casino and ask they be entered into the record and be considered prior to the final EIS determinate by the BIA.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Steven. B. Enos
Land use planner
Director, Grass Valley Neighbors

Grass Valley Neighbors
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