

Mr. and Mrs. Roberto Recendez

Roberto's Restaurant

200 D Street

Wheatland, California 95692

October 31, 2011

Honorable Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.

California State Capitol

Sacramento, California 95814

ATTN: Jacob A. Appelsmith

RE: Off-Reservation Casino, Yuba County

Dear Governor Brown:

We are the owners of Roberto's family restaurant in Wheatland, California where we have served our customers for 16 years, many of them from this area and many who have become good friends over the years. Admittedly, the present economy has presented challenges with which we struggle. Ours is typical of the other small businesses of Wheatland. Wheatland has a number of small restaurants, a grocery store, a pharmacy, several coffee shops, beauty parlors, a nursery, auto repair shops, etc., and is an ideal small town with rural roots. We are surrounded by beautiful small ranches. Ours is one of the richest histories in this state. The schools are very good and many of our children have done extremely well here and in the outside world.

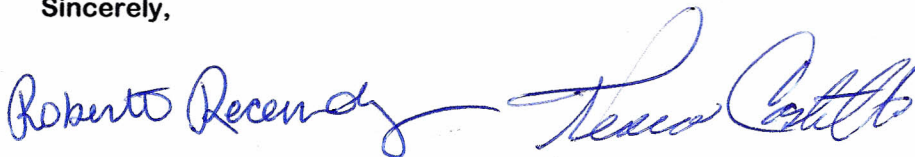
We are the parents of 4 children, all whom have graduated from college. Nadia completed her bachelor's degree in Liberal Studies at Sacramento State University, where Roberto, Jr. is studying Criminal Justice. Natalie completed her Bachelor's degree in Psychology at San Francisco State University. Melisa completed her Bachelor's degree in History at UC Berkeley. They will continue on in their study fields. They all work with us in the restaurant to help pay their tuition.

A casino would devastate our business and other businesses in Wheatland. We are familiar with the plight of restaurant owners in other areas where casinos have become "neighbors". Slowly their businesses and their livelihoods have been destroyed. And we have every reason to believe that other business would cease to exist here too. Wheatland simply cannot withstand the crippling blow of an off-reservation casino 5 miles north on Highway 65. Our way of life, our economy and the future of Wheatland would be devastated. And for what good?

You are aware of the vote of the people in this area, voting against a casino in Yuba County (59% against in Wheatland). Enterprise spent a lot of money on that election; the citizens of this community didn't spend anything but the outcome told the story. Our Board of Supervisors is hoodwinked into thinking that they are bound by oath not to comment negatively on the casino because of their MOU agreement with Enterprise. We find that especially hard to fathom. The MOU scheme seems to work this way: Enterprise said, "You have to sign this agreement now, or you won't have any chance of us funding critical services such as fire and police later". Thus, it was as if the county supervisors turned a deaf ear to our plight here from that time on. The City of Wheatland stood its ground and has been literally ignored.

This letter is only a small sample of how this community lives and functions and thinks. Let us emphasize that this letter alone cannot come close to telling the story of how disappointed everyone was to hear that the Department of the Interior bought the idea of the off-reservation casino. That decision does not reflect how hard pressed our residents would be to co-exist with such a facility that would be enhanced with sovereignty benefits with which private business cannot compete. Certainly my business in Wheatland would not be the same ever again. We ask that you re-examine the accuracy of the environmental impact information that was put forth by Enterprise to allow them to gain such a foothold with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Department of the Interior. And, also we ask that the entire MOU scheme be investigated for legality of negotiation with Yuba County, the BIA and the Department of the Interior. And, finally, we ask that your office of the Governor conclude natively to Enterprise's bid.

Sincerely,

The image shows two handwritten signatures in blue ink. The signature on the left is for Roberto Recendez, and the signature on the right is for Theresa Recendez. Both signatures are fluid and cursive.

Mr. Roberto Recendez

Mrs. Theresa Recendez

Phone: 530-6332474