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Assembly
California Legislature



March 9, 2009

DAN LOGUE
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, THIRD DISTRICT

Dale Morris, Regional Director
United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Pacific Regional Office
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Mr. Morris;

On May 18, 2005 Governor Schwarzenegger issued a proclamation which established the criteria by which gubernatorial concurrence with the Secretary of the Interior for off-reservation gaming on after-acquired lands would be granted. One of the criteria asked for evidence of community support as follows: "Tribe and the local jurisdiction demonstrate that the affected local community supports the project, such as by a local advisory vote."

On November 8, 2005, the voters of Yuba County voted by 52% against Measure G, a local ballot measure opposing the development of a Native American Casino at Forty Mile Road in the Sports Entertainment Zone. This proposal has been opposed by a broad coalition of Yuba County residents and groups including; the Yuba-Sutter Farm Bureau, the Yuba County Board of Education, the Wheatland School districts, the City of Wheatland, former Sheriff Virginia Black, and many others. The concerns of the local community should not be overlooked.

Even more importantly, it was the understanding of the electorate in 2000 when Proposition 1A passed, that gaming was to remain on "Indian Lands" as implied on the ballot measure. The mood of the State Legislature has not been favorable to reservation shopping, and there are real questions as to whether a tribal state compact would be ratified in this case.

Taking off-reservations lands into trust for gaming operations represents a significant departure from the voters intent where Indian gaming is concerned. New casinos have a significant impact on local communities, local governments, regional infrastructure and quality of life.

For these reasons, I join with the Governor in his conclusion that the Secretary should not proceed with the off-reservation bid by Enterprise Rancheria for a casino. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dan Logue

DAN LOGUE
Assemblyman District 3