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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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By 2-1 Margin, Yuba County Voters Strongly Oppose Off-Reservation Casinos

Marysville, CA – New polling data released today shows nearly two-thirds (63%) of Yuba County voters OPPOSE the Enterprise Rancheria off-reservation casino project in Yuba County which is being bankrolled by casino developer Gerald Forsythe from Chicago, Illinois.

The new survey, conducted by Jim Moore Methods, found that 69 percent of Yuba County voters oppose building off-reservation casinos altogether and 73 percent feel that tribes should get permission from the voters before moving forward with such projects. The poll found that 63 percent of Yuba County voters specifically opposed the Enterprise Rancheria casino while only 32 percent support.

Supervisor Roger Abe observed there is sustained and increasing opposition from 2005. “At that time, Yuba County voters defeated a measure by 52.1% to allow Enterprise Rancheria to build outside of its existing tribal lands. Today, 69% of voters OPPOSE building off-reservation casinos and 73% say tribes should ask Yuba voters for permission. Elected Officials need to recognize the will of the voters.”

“This poll indicates that the public is tiring of government schemes where politicians and investors make millions and the taxpayer picks-up the tab. Yuba County supervisors ignored taxpayer concerns, ignorantly supported illegal reservation-shopping and have put the county at risk with a terrible MOU,” according to Lou Binninger, member of the Yuba County Board of Education.

This information is timely given the recent decision by the Department of the Interior to approve two off-reservation gaming facility proposals in California despite the fact that the tribes making the proposals (Enterprise Rancheria and North Fork Rancheria) already have existing tribal lands on which to build casinos. The tribes instead are pursuing a practice known as “reservation shopping” in an effort to build casinos in urban areas and along highways where they have no modern, historical, or aboriginal nexus.

The fate of the casinos already approved by the Department of Interior rests in the hands of Governor Jerry Brown, as off-reservation sites must pass through what is called a “two-part determination.”

“Although the federal government has mistakenly opened the doors for these casinos,” noted Cheryl Schmit with Stand Up For California “The Governor has the chance to follow the will of the people and reject the proposals consistent with what California voters agreed to when they passed Propositions 1A and 5 that allows tribal gaming to take place on reservation land only.”

Anyone opposed to the off-reservation gaming facilities is encouraged to contact the Governor, asking him to not concur with the proposals.

The Yuba County survey was conducted by J. Moore Methods of Sacramento Nov. 11-14, 2011 with a sample size of 300 and has a (+/-) 5.7% margin of error.

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YUBA COUNTY SURVEY QUESTIONS
YUBA: N=300, (+/- 5.7) CALIFORNIA
JMM – 11/11-14/11
J.MOORE METHODS

Q: Several years ago, California voters approved Proposition 1A, which authorized California Indian tribes to build gaming casinos on their tribal lands.

What is your opinion on this issue? Do you favor or oppose allowing California Indian tribes to build gaming casinos on their tribal lands?

FAVOR	65 Percent
OPPOSE	31 Percent
NO OPINION	4 Percent

Q: Proposition 1A specified that Indian gaming could only occur on tribal lands. In the last few years a small group of Indian tribes in California have acquired property nearly 50 miles away from their historic tribal lands, much closer to urban areas, and are now claiming that this new land is their tribal land too.

What is your opinion of this? Should California Indian tribes be allowed to acquire land and build casinos many miles away from their historic tribal lands?

YES/ALLOW TO BUILD CASINOS OFF RESERVATION	24 Percent
NO/NOT ALLOW TO BUILD CASINOS OFF RESERVATION	69 Percent
NEITHER.	2 Percent
NO OPINION.	5 Percent

Q: In the past, major Indian gaming issues in California have been decided by the voters. Some people say these tribes who want to build new gaming casinos off their historic tribal lands should ask the voters for permission. Do you agree or disagree?

AGREE	73 Percent
DISAGREE	21 Percent
NO OPINION	6 Percent

Q: Locally, the Enterprise Rancheria tribe, whose land is in adjacent Butte County, wants to build a gaming casino near Olivehurst, which is over 50 miles away from their historic tribal lands. Would you support or oppose this proposal?

SUPPORT	32 Percent
OPPOSE	63 Percent
NO OPINION	5 Percent