andy vasquez

1530 743-7177



ANDY VASQUEZ

SUPERVISOR - DISTRICT ONE

Yuba County Government Center 915 8th Street, Suite 109 · Marysville, California 95901 (530) 749-7510 · Fax (530) 749-7353

September 26, 2011

Governor Jerry Brown State Capitol Building Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Department of Interior concurrence with Enterprise/Forsythe Casino

Dear Governor Brown:

I am writing you today in regards to the Enterprise Rancheria attempt to occupy land and construct a casino in Yuba County.

There are no federally recognized Indian Tribes in Yuba County. There are Indians who have a historical, cultural and anthropological claim to the area. Enterprise Rancheria is federally recognized in another County, has land in another County and burial sites in another County.

Before you consider negotiating with Enterprise and Forsythe Industries I believe a thorough consultative process with Indian tribes around Yuba County should be conducted to ensure that the state is not recognizing claims of tribes with money over the claims of tribes who lack the financial resources to compete with out of state casino investors. The issue of tribal land sovereignty is a critical issue of fairness and respect to native peoples.

The County of Yuba has been working with the Tsi-Akim tribe on issues related to sacred sites along the Yuba River. The Tsi-Akim should be consulted in any process that gives recognition to other tribes. Moreover, the Strawberry Valley Indians are an organized tribe that has deep anthropological and historical ties to Yuba County but they have been unable to gain Federal recognition and therefore not were consulted by the Department of Interior in regards to the Enterprise/Forsythe application.

If cultural, anthropological, and historic ties to the land are an issue in the decision making process, I believe the tribes in the surrounding area should be consulted and the historical records and academic studies, as well as oral histories should be considered and given weight in your deliberations.

Additionally, I would like to remind your office that the people of Yuba County voted against the Forsythe sponsored Enterprise Casino in 2005. One of the reasons people voted against the measure was because the issue of which Indians have a right to own land here was in dispute. I believe the election of 2005 should have been considered by the Department of Interior under the "community support" or "damage to the community" framework in the Enterprise application. I ask that your office consider the 2005 election results as you decide how the state will proceed.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please feel free to contact me personally if I can be of assistance to your office. (800) 977-6288

Sincerely

Andy Vasquez/

Supervisor District

andy vasquez