

COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER
940 MAIN STREET, SUITE 209
EL CENTRO, CA 92243-2871
TELEPHONE: (760) 482-4290
FAX: (760) 482-4215

DISTRICT 1
VICTOR M. CARRILLO
940 MAIN STREET, SUITE 209, EL CENTRO, CA. 92243

DISTRICT 2
JIM GROGAN
940 MAIN STREET, SUITE 209, EL CENTRO, CA. 92243

DISTRICT 3
JOE MARUCA
940 MAIN STREET, SUITE 209, EL CENTRO, CA. 92243

DISTRICT 4
GARY WYATT
940 MAIN STREET, SUITE 209, EL CENTRO, CA. 92243

DISTRICT 5
WALLY LEIMGRUBER
940 MAIN STREET, SUITE 209, EL CENTRO, CA. 92243

CERTIFIED MAIL 7000 1670 0011 0908 7793

February 14, 2006

City of Calexico
608 Heber Avenue
Calexico, CA 92231
Attn: Marlene Best, City Manager

Subject: Indian Gaming Casino Facility

Dear Ms. Best:

On behalf of the County Board of Supervisors we are submitting this letter to address the concerns the County would expect to have addressed in the location of such a facility.

This letter does not take a position on the pros and cons of a gaming facility. It is a letter to reflect only the environmental and other concerns that the County has.

We would therefore respectfully request that the City address the following:


1. Prepare a Comprehensive Environmental Impact Report for the Project by a qualified firm.
2. Require that a third party independent Traffic Analysis be prepared on a regional basis. We would expect the traffic analysis to be part of the EIR. However, we emphasize the traffic analysis because of the significant amount of vehicular traffic such a facility creates. We would also request that as part of the traffic review, that this be closely coordinated with the County Public Works and Planning & Development Services Departments.
3. Not knowing the exact location of such a facility, there are number of financial considerations that should also be addressed. If the facility is located in the existing City Limits of Calexico, we would expect the City and the County to reach an agreement on the mitigation of the environmental, as well a financial impacts including but not limited to payment in lieu of taxes, T.O.T, etc. Financial impact in this case would be impacts in public services such as Social Services, impacts on Law Enforcement such as the jail facilities, District Attorney, Public Defenders, etc.

4. If the facility is on property that is not now in the City limits and requires annexation, then of course, we would expect the usual process to be followed through the LAFCO annexation process and the previous tax sharing agreements (that would otherwise be applicable).
5. The County would request that in the preparation and review of both the environmental and the fiscal impacts, that the City closely coordinates these studies and reviews with County Departments prior to the release of a Draft EIR. We would in fact ask to see and review screen checks.
6. We would request, that a copy of the Initial Study be presented to the County in advance of an NOP being issued. This way the County can review the potential impacts identified by your City or your consultant and if necessary address additional concerns that may or may not have been included.
7. We also request that the CEQA document analyze health care and health related impacts both in the casino and on third party providers.
8. The Board also requests consideration that the City and or Tribal Interest support and pay for a Countywide referendum on the proposed casino.

In conclusion, the County would expect nothing less than a full Environmental Impact Report and a full Fiscal Analysis based on final siting locations to be prepared by and through the City of Calexico as Lead Agency utilizing third party consultants.

Should you have any questions or comments regarding this matter, please feel free to contact Jurg Heuberger, AICP, at (760) 482-4236, extension 4310 or via e-mail at jurgheuberger@imperialcounty.net.

Sincerely,



VICTOR CARRILLO, CHAIRMAN
Imperial County Board of Supervisors

The letter was approved by the Imperial County Board of Supervisors during a regular scheduled meeting on this 14th day of February 14, 2006, on a motion by Supervisor Gary Wyatt and seconded by Supervisor Wally Leimgruber and passed by the following vote:

AYES: Maruca, Wyatt and Leimgruber
NOES: Carrillo and Grogan
ABSENT: None

cc: Jurg Heuberger, Planning & Development Services Director
Darrell Gardner, Assistant Planning & Development Services Director
10.105, 10.138,