



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

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1/16/96

Eric Cortez
613 Singley Rd
Loleta, CA 95551

Subject: Proposed Casino, Singley Road, Loleta

Dear Mr. Cortez:

I share your concerns and the concerns of the Singley Rd. Homeowners Association over the potential impacts of the development of a casino along Singley Road.

As you are aware, our Department assisted the Indian Health Service in their site evaluation for the placement of 14 to 20 homes on the parcel now proposed for casino development. As I recall, that evaluation identified several areas suitable for the installation of individual (small-scale) sewage disposal system, but did not address the potential for the installation of any relatively large-flow developments.

Because of site constraints identified in the first IHS site evaluation (steep slopes, fine soils and high water tables), we would strongly recommend to any developers that they not proceed with development plans until wet season soils testing conclusively proves that ample suitable area exists on the parcel for construction of a sewage disposal system.

The failure to identify a suitable area for sewage system prior to finalizing plans could have disastrous impacts on public health and the environment.

Please understand however, that the Humboldt County Health Department, does not have regulatory jurisdiction over sewage disposal system aspects of projects located on the Loleta Rancheria property. Our prior involvement in the Rancheria development was at the invitation of the IHS. While we would be eager and willing to assist in the site evaluation for the proposed casino, to date we have received no invitation to do so.

I recommend that that you contact the Indian Health Service to determine the status of the Environmental Review (NEPA) process for the proposed project, and provide input accordingly. Our Environmental Health Division will also seek to comment on the Environmental Document in an attempt to ensure that all development complies with County Standards for the siting and design of on site sewage disposal systems.

If you have any further questions please contact Harry Nethery at the Division of Environmental Health 445-6215.


Jeff Arnold

cc: Supervisor Stan Dixon, Humboldt County Planning Department, Environmental Health Division

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