

STANDING COMMITTEES:  
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NATURAL RESOURCES AND  
WILDLIFE, VICE CHAIR  
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WATER RESOURCES  
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION  
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VETERANS AFFAIRS

# California State Senate

SELECT COMMITTEE ON  
CALIFORNIA'S WINE INDUSTRY, CHAIR  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON  
FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE, VICE CHAIR  
RURAL CAUCUS, CHAIR

SENATOR  
**MIKE THOMPSON**  
SECOND SENATORIAL DISTRICT



April 17, 1997

Mr. Noel Krahforst  
525 Singley Hill Road  
Loleta, CA 95551

Dear Mr. Krahforst:

I received your communication concerning Indian gaming in California, specifically activities by the Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria. I share your frustration over the construction activities and disregard for environmental standards.

As you know, I have recently urged the Governor to continue state compact negotiations with California tribes, in part because I believe it strengthens the state's ability to affect gaming operations. Nonetheless, although under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act tribes are legally able to operate gaming casinos, they are accountable under provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act. Therefore, I have written Ada E. Deer, Acting Chair of the National Indian Gaming Commission and Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs of the Interior Department and asked that she assert their jurisdiction at Rohnerville Rancheria. I have enclosed a copy of my letter.

I appreciate hearing from you. Please don't hesitate to contact me again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Thompson".

MIKE THOMPSON  
Senator, 2nd District

MT:com

Enclosure

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