

MIKE THOMPSON

1ST DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA



DISTRICT OFFICES:
1040 MAIN STREET, SUITE 101
NAPA, CA 94559
(707) 226-9898

317 THIRD STREET, SUITE 1
EUREKA, CA 95501
(707) 269-9595

POST OFFICE BOX 2208
FORT BRAGG, CA 95437
(707) 962-0933

712 MAIN STREET, SUITE 101
WOODLAND, CA 95695
(530) 662-5272

CAPITOL OFFICE:
231 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3311

WEB: <http://mikethompson.house.gov>

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SELECT
REVENUE MEASURES

PERMANENT SELECT

COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON TERRORISM,
HUMAN INTELLIGENCE, ANALYSIS AND
COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY
MANAGEMENT

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, DC 20515

September 30, 2009

Leonard Bowman, Chairman
Bear River Tribal Council
27 Bear River Drive
Loleta, CA 95551

Re: Bear River Casino Hotel Addition and Expansion Project
Environmental Evaluation

Dear Chairman Bowman and Council Members:

I have received the enclosed letter from the Singley Hill Homeowners Association concerning the proposed Bear River Casino and Hotel Addition and Expansion Project. Pursuant to their letter, my staff reviewed the project Environmental Evaluation, the County of Humboldt's traffic and preliminary comments, as well as documents provided by the Army Corps of Engineers for wetland mitigation.

It appears the scope of the proposed expansion project will have a significant impact on the surrounding community. It has also been brought to my attention that the tribe has begun grading and earth movement on the tribally owned Fearrien Property which has been proposed for development of tribal housing and an RV Park. I understand the property has not yet been taken into trust status, the County has issued a stop work order and the Army Corps of Engineers has issued a cease and desist until the proper permits are issued.

Given the level of concern regarding these projects, I have asked the Environmental Protection Agency and the Bureau of Indian Affairs to review and comment on the Environmental Evaluation and housing proposal.

It is my hope that the tribe will be able to address the issues raised by the County of Humboldt and provide some level of mitigation for its neighbors.

Sincerely,

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

MIKE THOMPSON
Member of Congress

MT:lm
Enclosure