

December 19, 2006

Mr. Dan Tucker  
Chairman of the Sycuan Band  
of the Kumeyaay Nation  
5459 Sycuan Road  
El Cajon, CA 92019

**Re: Response to Mr. Tucker's Letter of November 14, 2006 --**

Dear Mr. Tucker,

I am writing as a member of the Planning Group in response to your letter of November 14, 2006. While the tone of your letter is less than cordial I appreciate your willingness to express your concerns and am encouraged that as a Tribal Leader you are willing to engage in dialogue regarding issues vital to the Dehesa Valley. Your government may wish to assign staff in the future to review the Planning Group's published and posted agendas in accordance with open meeting laws. I encourage you or staff to attend and participate in these regular meetings.

Your letter raises critical concerns and mutual goals between the Tribe and the Planning Group. I have recently reviewed the MOU signed November 4, 2000. The agreement to "*to develop a progressive relationship by maintaining open communication, shared ideas and identifying critical issues for either party*" not limited to environmental impacts appears to include developments not only off-reservation but provides a voice for our Planning Group over the off-reservation effects of on-going developments on the Reservation. As such, it would be very important to engage in dialogue over the Tribes long-term plans for Reservation development and expansion and their likely off-reservation effects prior to the Tribe negotiating an amended tribal state compact. Our support of amendments to the tribal state gaming compact is contingent on whether these issues can be addressed. The amendments currently proposed include a 150% growth in casino slots. Such a large expansion raises many questions that must be explored before we can support the proposed amendments.

The MOU states:

*This agreement is being entered into in contemplation of a future document (or documents) which will provide more substantive detail of the parties' plans as they evolve.)*

The MOU presents a real opportunity for our Planning Group and the Tribe to fortify their rapport. The Tribe's past Casino development has left un-addressed and created contentious concerns over a need for a surface water supply, additional lands transferred into trust and an enhanced transportation system. These impacts are all complicated with the need to protect air quality, night sky, community density and community character for both tribal and non tribal citizens. These developments have an affect on the taxation and jurisdictional entities in the greater regional area and without a doubt require our mutual cooperation.

Tribal State Compact amendments must be developed and supported by all affected parties. The Tribe should have considered the critical issues surrounding shared resources of our Valley and worked cooperatively long in advance of seeking amendments to a gaming compact in Sacramento. We believe such a dialogue will only strengthen the Tribe's proposal and enhance its chances for approval in Sacramento. An enhanced MOU between the Tribe and the Planning Group, included in an amended and modified Tribal State Compact will make the promises of the MOU durable.

Please know that I remain committed to a continued progressive relationship maintained by civil and courtesy dialogue over the development of our shared Valley.

Sincerely,



Lorraine Walls  
Crest/Dehesa/Granite Hills/Harbison Canyon  
Planning Group Member

CC: Congressman Duncan Hunter  
Senator Dennis Hollingsworth  
Assemblyman Joel Anderson  
Supervisor Dianne Jacob  
Walt Ekard, County CAO  
Members, Crest Dehesa Granite Hills /Harbison Canyon Planning Group  
Members, Dehesa School Board  
Andrea Hoch, Secretary Legal Affairs  
Stephanie Shimazu, Deputy Secretary of Legal Affairs  
Honorable Don Perata, Sen. Pro Tem  
Honorable Fabian Nunez, Speaker of the House  
Cheryl Schmit, Director Stand Up For California