## Stand Up For California!

"Citizens making a difference" standupca.org

**P.O. Box 355** Penryn, CA 95663

May 31, 2006

Honorable Lee Fleming- Director Office of Federal Acknowledgment United States Department of the Interior 1951 Constitution Ave. N. W. Mail Stop 34B-SIB Washington, D.C. 20240 FAX: 202-219-3008

## **RE:** Request to be an "Informed Party" – Juaneno Petitioning Groups 84 A and 84 B

Dear Mr. Fleming:

Stand Up For California has been involved with issues associated with Indian gaming for many years in California and frequently serves as a resource to policymakers and elected officials at the local, state and national level.

The "Active Consideration" of the Juaneno is one of the first in California's recent history. This particular acknowledgement process is complicated by high profile members within the tribal group membership and a significant opportunity for the promotion of gaming in a metropolitan/urban area in two of our states most populated counties that have no other federally recognized tribes. The tribal group is divided into factions and has filed separate petitions. Each of these factions has gained in recent months some sort of financial support, reportedly from gaming interests.

As a statewide organization concerned about the impacts of gaming on the public, we formally request "Informed Party" status.

Sincerely,

Cheryl A. Schmit – Director 916-663-3207 <u>schmit@hughes.net</u>

CC: Andrea Lynn Hoch, Legal Affairs Secretary Stephanie Shimazu, Deputy Legal Affairs Secretary Robert Mukia, Senior Asst. Attorney General Sara Drake, Supervising Deputy Attorney General