



# County of San Diego

WALTER F. EKARD  
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER  
(619) 531-6226  
FAX: (619) 557-4060

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, STE. 209, SAN DIEGO, CA 92101-2472

HELEN N. ROBBINS-MEYER  
ASST. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER  
(619) 531-4940  
FAX: (619) 557-4060

VIA FAX, EMAIL AND U.S. MAIL  
Fax: (760) 742.3422  
[paumareservation@aol.com](mailto:paumareservation@aol.com)

August 21, 2007

Hon. Christobal C. Devers Sr., Chairman  
Pauma Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the Pauma  
& Yuima Reservation  
P.O. Box 369  
Pauma Valley, CA 92061

Dear Chairman Devers,

As you know, over the last two months, I have been receiving complaints from some of the neighbors of Casino Pauma about searchlights. When I last contacted you and Mr. Saenz about the complaints, Mr. Saenz told me that "The Enterprise Board" considered the neighbors' complaints but directed that the lights be turned on.

I am writing you because I have since reviewed two separate environmental documents prepared for the Tribe and found that searchlights are not consistent with what was stated in these documents. Specifically, the October 13, 2000 Environmental Evaluation (EE) for the original Casino Pauma contained the following statements:

Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

...Outdoor lighting at the casino and parking area will be minimal, and all outdoor lighting will be designed to cast light downward. Therefore, there would not be an impact to "dark skies" or the Mount Palomar Observatory.

Would the project create a new source of substantial light or glare, which would adversely affect day or nighttime views of historic buildings or views in the area?

Operation of the Proposed Project at night would require night lighting for the parking lot, traffic circulation, security and pedestrian safety. These potential effects would be reduced to below a level of significance through the use of downcast lighting. The intensity and number of lights shall be minimized to that which is adequate for public safety and security.

The EE, dated September 2004, which was submitted for the 6,400-square foot expansion in 2004, found a "Less than Significant Impact" regarding light pollution and included the following statement:

"Operation of the Proposed Project at night would require night lighting for the parking lot, traffic circulation, security and pedestrian safety. These potential effects would be reduced to below a level of significance through the use of downcast lighting. The intensity and number of lights shall be minimized to that which is adequate for public safety and security."

I think you will agree that the use of searchlights is inconsistent with the reassurances contained in the 2000 and 2004 Environmental Evaluations and direct that they be turned off permanently.

Please contact me to let me know how you intend to address this issue. I can be contacted by letter, by phone at (619) 685-2542, or by email at [chantal.saipe@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:chantal.saipe@sdcounty.ca.gov).

Respectfully,



CHANTAL SAIPE  
Tribal Liaison