

August 27, 2007

Supervisor Brooks Firestone
County of Santa Barbara
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Dear Supervisor Firestone,

The undersigned groups respectfully request that you take action as necessary at this time to:

- 1) immediately repeal authorization for any and all work on, and stop all work on, the project known as the *Greater Santa Ynez Valley Baseline Report*,
- 2) restore the \$100,000 funding to the Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan, and
- 3) leave in place the commitment made by the Board of Supervisors (on February 27, 2007 on a 4-1 vote) to conduct a countywide "comprehensive impact study" to include "traffic, crime, economic, social, environmental and infrastructure impacts of the existing 2,000 slot gaming operation at the Chumash Casino". (This important study remains to be conducted, in the future, after considerable public discussion and concurrence with its precise content and methodology.)

We wish to take this opportunity to express our displeasure with the governmental processes by which this "Report" project came into being. There was no meaningful notice or direct notice to the residents of the Santa Ynez Valley. This project never went to the Planning Commission, and was approved in Budget Hearings whose noticing failed to even mention this project by name, much less provide a brief description.

As you well know, Santa Ynez Valley residents are intensely interested in land use issues, and the many issues surrounding the impacts and/or expansion of casino gambling. Several community groups exist to follow these issues, and are in regular communication with your office.

Your office has all of our addresses, physical and e-mail, and we respectfully request that your office strive not only to meet the minimum legal requirements for noticing, but to go well beyond this very low level to keep your constituents well informed.

Respectfully,




Jon Bowen

President, Preservation of Santa Ynez

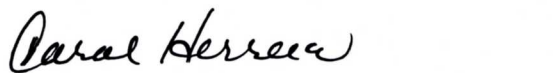


Doug Herthel

President, Preservation of Los Olivos



Mark Oliver
President, Santa
Ynez Valley Alliance



CAROL HERRERA
PRESIDENT
Women's Environmental
Watch (W.E. WATCH)