

Santa Ynez Valley Concerned Citizens

June 14, 2014

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Ms. Amy Dutschke, Regional Director
Pacific Regional Office
Bureau of Indian Affairs
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825

**RE: Request for 60 day extension of Public Comment Period ending June 30, 2014
Environmental Assessment (EA) Camp 4 Parcels Santa Ynez, California
Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians**

Dear Director Deutschke:

Santa Ynez Valley Concerned Citizens herein requests an extension of the public comment period for the above referenced environmental assessment document in order to provide adequate and reasonable time to review and prepare comments on an acquisition of the size and scope of this environmental assessment. We find numerous compelling reasons why additional time is necessary in fairness to the community, as follows:

1. The sheer magnitude of the proposed acquisition (over 1400 acres), already completely encompassed within the Santa Ynez Community Plan area, a rigorously zoned component of a larger cumulative natural resource management plan, served by state and local roads, including local school districts and supported by local police, fire and flood control agencies.
2. Recent announcements by the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians regarding significant expansion of the gaming floor of the tribe's casino complex, including near doubling of the tribe's hotel complex and significant expansion of parking facilities on the tribe's current reservation served by the same roads and utilities as neighboring communities.
3. The recently announced plans by the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians to initiate development of the tribe's 6.9 acre parcel also served by the same roads and public services.
4. The size and complexity of the Environmental Assessment itself, comprising nearly 2000 pages. Additional time is necessary to retain and consult with professionals to sufficiently evaluate and critique the work of the tribe's consultant. It should be noted that this Environmental Assessment was nearly four years in the making and to reduce the time necessary to adequately review to thirty days is patently absurd.

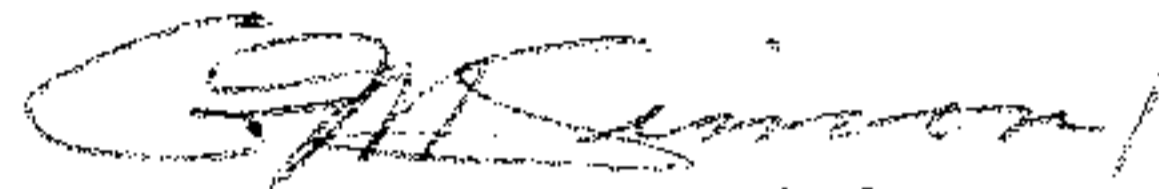
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5. The surrounding communities are presently experiencing one of the worst droughts in recorded history, coupled with a recently announced statewide requirement for water sources to adopt rigorous and potentially expensive water treatment requirements potentially adding significant environmental impacts to be reviewed.

Based upon the above five considerations we respectfully request an extension of not less than 60 days.

Respectfully,

SANTA YNEZ VALLEY CONCERNED CITIZENS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. M. Simon".

Gregory M. Simon, Chair

cc: The Hon. Governor Edmund G. Brown
The Hon. Senator Dianne Feinstein
The Hon. Representative Lois Capps
The Hon. Supervisor Doreen Far