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October 26, 2011

Governor Jerry Brown
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown;

We strongly oppose the North Fork Rancheria/Station Casinos off reservation project in Madera, and we urge you to reject the U.S. Department of Interior's approval of the project.

We are among the large coalition of local governments, tribal governments, farmers, small businesses, religious leaders and community organizations that oppose this project. When California voters passed Proposition 1A they did so after being promised that Indian gaming would occur solely on Indian lands. Approving this project would be in direct violation of that promise. The North Fork/Station Casino would be located nearly fifty miles from North Fork's existing reservation. Locating a casino on heavily traveled Highway 99 would also increase traffic congestion, lead to more air pollution and threaten overtaxed water supplies. Furthermore, this casino would cause serious harm to local businesses by taking their customers away. There are many such projects in the approval process throughout the State of California. Permitting the North Fork/Station Casino project would set a very negative precedent and would open a floodgate to new urban casinos in direct violation of the will of California voters.

Thank you for your attention to this very important issue.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mike Wilhelm".

Mike Wilhelm
Director