

THE SANTA YNEZ VALLEY CONCERNED CITIZENS

July 11, 2016

The Hon. Rob Bishop
Committee on Natural Resources
United States House of Representatives
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

**SENT BY FAX, EMAIL
AND BY UPS**

Subject: HR 1157

Dear Representative Bishop;

Imagine our consternation and distress when we as residents of Santa Barbara County and the Santa Ynez Valley awoke to find that HR 1157 was progressing to Mark up and Hearing in the Sub-Committee of Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs, despite the fact that the County of Santa Barbara and the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians were in substantive talks on the issue as requested by the Committee and its Chair Representative Don Young. Furthermore, this Bill has been and continues to be opposed by the Congressional Representative of the District, Lois Capps and the impacted jurisdiction, Santa Barbara County. We respectfully request that the four (4) following issues be reviewed and understood before this Bill moves forward.

1. The property in question, 1400 acres +/- known as Camp 4, includes 21 acres of County Roadway easements likely to be extinguished if HR1157 passes without compensation to the County or mitigation for the material conflicts to existing and planned infra-structure, no consideration to the significant jurisdictional conflicts, and disregard for the material burdens posed on Water, waste water and natural resources by this action. Clearly, this represents a “**Taking**” as defined by Federal statute.
2. No evaluation or consideration is made as to the easements in place with neighboring property owners who will suffer potential injury without remedy if the Bill as presently constructed goes forward.
3. The Santa Ynez Band of Chumash provided a Map of proposed development for Camp 4 and recently acquired properties with significant expansion of Commercial development which contradicts the fundamental premise of need, used as the basis for HR1157, articulated as 143 units of Tribal Housing.
4. If passed, the bill invalidates over 10 years of participatory Community Planning, and natural resource planning.

We respectfully request that the bill, HR 1157 be set aside at this time until the Tribe and the impacted jurisdiction, Santa Barbara County complete negotiations on a locally achieved alternative to HR1157. Short of this, we demand that any Congressional action provide reasonable mitigation to protect the rights of the other 23,000 residents of the Santa Ynez Valley who will be significantly impacted if protections are not in place.

P.O. Box 244 Santa Ynez, California 93460

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Respectfully submitted,

Charles A. Jackson, Director
The Santa Ynez Valley Concerned Citizens

CC: The Hon. Senator Dianne Feinstein
The Hon. Representative Lois Capps
The Hon. Representative Doug La Malfa
The Hon. Governor Edmund G. Brown
The Hon. Supervisor Doreen Farr
The Hon. Supervisor Peter Adam
The Hon. Representative Paul Ryan, House Speaker
Jason Knox, Maj. Staff Director Natural Resources Committee
Meghan Conklin, Min. Staff Director Natural Resources Committee
Chris Fluhr, Maj. Staff Dir. Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs sub-Committee
Mr. Tom Gede, Esq.