



Santa Ynez Valley Concerned Citizens
Preservation of Los Olivos
Preservation of Santa Ynez
Valley Alliance
Women's Environmental Watch of the Santa Ynez Valley

18 July 2005

Board of Supervisors,
Santa Barbara County
County Administration Building
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Dear Madam Chair and Honorable Supervisors:

The communities of the Santa Ynez Valley are united in their opposition to further Tribal annexation, which creates an unsustainable financial imbalance between county revenues and services provided, a lack of equity in public finance and the elimination of local decision-making on critically important land use issues that will dictate the future of the Santa Ynez communities we love.

Putting additional land into federal trust robs 99 percent of the citizens in the Santa Ynez Valley of the ability to define the quality and character of our community. Our experience with "fee to trust" annexation, as promoted and expressed by the Chumash tribal leadership, has proven to be contrary to our County's rigorous land use regulations and zoning guidelines, and takes away the important protections granted to local residents under the California Environmental Quality Act. This type of annexation has already altered forever the rural environment in our Valley. You should also understand that, if trust land expansion continues, intensive tribal development of land currently protected in agricultural status will directly contravene state and county protections of agricultural uses, and cause significant economic harm to existing operations.

Please stand up for local residents and join the appeal of annexation on the 6.9 acres in Santa Ynez, which has already been filed by Santa Ynez Valley Concerned Citizens, Preservation of Los Olivos, Preservation of Santa Ynez, and Women's Environmental Watch of the Santa Ynez Valley. Your involvement with and support of your constituencies in this action are critical to the financial and environmental future of Santa Barbara County, and will, we believe, vastly assist our community efforts at both the State and Federal levels.

In addition, I strongly encourage you to oppose any and all future Tribal annexation requests which [1] do not equitably carry their fair share of the financial burden for community services and [2] are not consistent with local land use regulations and zoning.

Sincerely,

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____