

Lauren Coartney

From: Brown, Patrick <Patrick.Brown@sdcounty.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 04, 2011 4:19 PM
To: ECOSUB
Cc: Buell, Diane
Subject: Letter From Carmen Lucas
Attachments: Letter from Carmen Lucas.pdf

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Please see the attached letter from Carmen Lucas. This letter was sent by mail to our office and is not considered an official County of San Diego Comment. I am merely forwarding this letter on to the appropriate source.

Sincerely,

Patrick P. Brown
County of San Diego
Department of Planning and Land Use
5201 Ruffin Rd Suite B. San Diego, CA 92123
Office: 858-694-3011

You can monitor your account balances by clicking here:
<http://projectbalance.sdcounty.ca.gov/COSD.aspx>

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CARMEN LUCAS

P.O. Box 775

Fine Valley, California

2 March 2011

CONFIDENTIAL

DIANE BUELL

Staff Archaeologist

Department of Planning and Land Use

5201 Ruffin Road, Suite B, MS 0650

San Diego, California 92123-1666

Ref: Our telephone conversation of February 2011;

Subj: County of San Diego DPL letter dated February 7, 2011; reference:
Energía Sierra Juarez (ESJ) Major Use Permit Well Extraction; Project
Numbers; 3300 10014; request for information regarding cultural places

Dear Diane:

This letter is a follow-up to our phone conversation of a few weeks ago. As you know the referenced project proposes the acquisition of water from an existing Jucumba Community Service District Warm Water well, with the water to be used at the ESJ Gen-Tie construction site to control dust and construction of a new access route (150) feet by 15 feet wide) onto Old Highway 80. The proposed project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the County of San Diego Resource Protection Ordinance (RPO).

As you know I am an Indian of Kwaaymii ancestry and live on the lands of my ancestors in Laguna Mountain. Please be advised that I only speak for my self and my self alone. I have known all of my life the sacredness of water. It has been my understanding that the "Spirit" lives in the water, I have also understood that the Creator provided "healing" powers with certain waters such as minerals, sulfur, heat

etc. The Jucumba Warm Water/Hot Springs would be such water. It has been a well known fact that the "Warm Waters/Hot Springs of Jucumba have been used for the miracle therapeutic qualities there-in since time immemorial and to my understanding continues to be part of the Jucumba Hotel/Motel attributes.

It would seem that due to all the Archaeological surveys, test and excavations that have been conducted over the years in the Jucumba Valley as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), hopefully all of the reports have been completed and are on file at the San Diego Service Center at San Diego State University. If so those collective documents validate that the Jucumba Valley as a whole to include the Warm Water/Hot Springs retains the essence of place and the sacredness of the landscape as a whole.

Just to name a few items of Pre-History that have been recovered and are documented in those records:

1. Shells from both the Pacific Ocean and the Gulf of California,
2. Lithic of petrified wood, chalcedony, Wonder stone and Obsidian from the Obsidian Butte as well as the Coso and Casa Diablo as well as material from the local area.
3. Pot shards with fresh water shell in the paste gives testimony that the clay was acquired from the shores/arroyos of Ancient Lake Cahuilla in the desert

Jucumba Valley would be that last and first place to rest and gather resources before continuing the long journey into the desert to the east and/or from the areas of the west to the Pacific Ocean, as the old ones proceeded with their travels on the "Yuma Trail" (Pre-history trail that travels from Yuma to the Pacific Ocean). One only needs to experience the land formations and what it is to walk from the Pacific Ocean to the Gulf of California to understand that the Warm Water/Hot Springs located in the Jucumba Valley, after such a journey would be a welcome indulgent that would reach an ultimate spiritual level.

It can not be ignored that all of these things collective as well as the unmentioned remains of the Old Ones that remain as part of the landscape, also gives testimony to the pre history use of the Jucumba Valley as a Traditional Land Scape. As such it would appear that the reference project would fall under the San

Diego Resource Protection Ordinance (RPO) *hopefully that would mean Preservation as well as Protection.

One last thought is that it also seems that, to use the sacred healing waters of the Warm/Hot Springs for a Construction site to control dust and the construction of a new access route is indicative of how insane the collective modern society has become. Water regardless if it is Potable or Healing, is sacred to all societies. The daily lives of the Back country of San Diego depends on Ground water ;, to use such sacred water in such a disrespectful manner is extremely hard for me to comprehend and I for one find the use of water that the Creator provided for therapeutic purposes to be developed for Construction and dust control sinful!

RECOMMENDATION:

Find one of those Sewer Water Reclamation projects and spend the money to have that reclaimed water hauled in for all construction and dust control projects, and protect the sacred potable and healing waters.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Should you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



CARMEN LUCAS
Kwaaymii, Laguna Band of Indians
Laguna Mountain, California

Copy to:

Native American Heritage Commission
Courtney Ann Coyle, Attorney