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To Whom It May Concern

I would like to add my concerns to those expressed by my colleagues from U.C. Santa Cruz and U.C. Los Angeles over the proposed development of the Sargent Quarry at Sargent Ranch/Juristac in their letter of May 24, 2017 as an expert in the field of Native American history, culture, and lifeways, a experienced practitioner of partnership with local tribal nations on a major project in the San Diego region, and as a homeowner in Santa Clara county.

Planners of land use and business development are used to weighing different proposals and the competing economic and social impacts that arrive with them. From the point of view of the Amah Mutsun, the impact of the Sargent Quarry proposal is not commensurate with any other development proposal at any other place or time. Destroying forever an important place that is both sacred and historically significant for the Amah Mutsun is not commensurate with the adverse effects that other entities may feel as a result of a development project.

Santa Clara County has publically acknowledged the historical actions that have led to their current landless and non-recognized circumstance of the original Indigenous peoples. As a result, the County has a responsibility to protect the documented sites of historical importance to the Amah Mutsun that evidence the crucial connection between members present and past and this land. Failure to do so has implications that no other demographic or interest groups will ever bear, since it will directly affect the ability of the Amah Mutsun to maintain cultural identity for present and future members, and may in and of itself preclude future State or Federal recognition. The principled way forward is to conduct formal Tribal consultation with the Amah Mutsun officials and work in partnership on the issues raised by the Sargent Quarry proposal.

Sincerely,

*Ross H. Frank*

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