



EcoBirth

Women for Earth and Birth

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October 29, 2017
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
Board of Supervisors, Santa Clara County
70 West Hedding Street, East Wing, 10th Floor
San Jose, CA 95110

Dear County Board of Supervisors,

I have just learned that the most Sacred Site of the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band is under threat of a surface mining proposal. The site I refer to is "Juristac", "place of the Big Head", now known as Sargent Ranch. Now these Sacred Mountains could be reduced to an extractive sand and gravel mining operation, a tremendous open pit- **tangible evidence of the continuing adulteration of our Mother Earth, persecution of its original inhabitants and perpetration of harm to all future generations.**

To allow the desecration of this site by allowing mining on it would be an abominable decision by the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. The State of California, from its very beginnings, has ignored the rights of its indigenous peoples, stealing their lands, destroying their sacred sites, undermining their cultures and financing genocidal campaigns of murder (paying bounties for their scalps and getting reimbursed by the federal government). It is time to finally recognize this history, put a stop to the current perpetration of harm that a quarry pit imposes on the sacred land and start to respect the state's first people as followers of their Creator's instruction to care for Mother Earth as stewards and protectors. Let us see our government bodies recognize that caring rather than harming is what is right for our common good- for which you are elected. This public trust impels you to act to protect rather than to allow further desecration and dishonor.