

HOKOTEHI



MORIORI UNITY AND DEVELOPMENT

28 January 2018

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
Board of Supervisors
70 West Hedding Street, East Wing, 10th Floor
San Jose, CA 95110
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

By Email Board Operations@cob.sccgov.org

Tena ko (Greetings),

LETTER OF SUPPORT FROM AMAH MUTSUN TO OPPOSE MINING OF SACRED LANDS AT JURISTAC, SANTA CLARA COUNTY

I am writing this letter in support and solidarity for the Amah Mutsun peoples in opposition to the proposal by your Board to permit mining of their sacred lands at Juristac for sand and gravel.

I am familiar with the history of the colonisation and brutal treatment of the Amah Mutsun over the past several hundred years. The fact that these injustices have not been addressed or redressed is a scar on the conscience of the USA and the State of California. If the Board of Supervisors of Santa Clara County is to now permit the despoliation and destruction of the sacred lands of the Amah Mutsun, is adding to the already incalculable injustices that has already been done to these brave peoples over a long period of US history.

Sadly, their history mirrors the treatment that was meted out to my own Moriori peoples here on Rekohu (Chatham Islands), New Zealand, so my people can relate strongly to the struggles that they face. We to have faced genocide and enslavement and near extinction.

44°S 176°W

Hokotehi Moriori Trust
PO Box 188
Rekohu
CHATHAM ISLANDS 8942

T: (03) 305 0450
F: (03) 305 0454

But like the Amah Mutsun we have survived to tell our story and rebuild our culture and identity and to protect the little sacred land that now remains in our hands.

Your Board have an opportunity to say “enough” and prevent yet another injustice from occurring by stopping the mining of these sacred lands. As the great Civil Rights Leader, Martin Luther King Jr once said: *“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere”*.

Thank you for considering this submission of support for the Amah Mutsun.

Me rongo (in peace),

Maui Solomon
Chairperson