MEASURE I BALLOT ARGUMENT

People in Amador County are concerned. Five years ago, 62 percent of the local voters in Amador County voted YES on Proposition 1A amending the State's Constitution and authorizing the Governor to enter into gaming compacts with California Indian tribes.

Proposition 1A only allowed Indian Gaming "on Indian lands in California in accordance with federal law."

After 62 percent of Amador County voted YES on Proposition 1A, we negotiated and signed a Compact with the Governor.

Governor Schwarzenegger proposed amendments to our Compact increasing our financial contributions to California, requiring environmental standards, and mitigating impacts on surrounding communities. We agreed.

Some Indian Tribes have tried to expand gaming on land they purchased after Proposition 1A was approved. When they tried that in Plymouth, Amador citizens were angry. We understand. The Buena Vista Tribe does not support "reservation shopping" in Amador County.

After the Plymouth controversy, people questioned the status of Buena Vista's tribal lands. To avoid confusion, we asked the Bush Administration to confirm the land status of the Buena Vista Rancheria. The federal government re-affirmed that the Rancheria is our legitimate ancestral land, and therefore qualifies for the federally approved Compact.

In addition to abiding by all federal and State laws, we've adopted our "Buena Vista Good Neighbor Policies"… commitments to partner with Amador County business, hire qualified residents, and promote Amador County's wineries and tourism.

Measure I will not change our commitment to remain "Good Neighbors."

RHONDA MORNINGSTAR POPE
TRIBAL CHAIRWOMAN
BUENA VISTA TRIBE OF ME-WUK INDIANS