

**WALLY HERGER**

2ND DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0502**

**COMMITTEE ON  
WAYS AND MEANS**

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**HUMAN RESOURCES**

March 17, 2008

Dear Mrs. Ferrini,

Thank you for contacting me to share your concern with the Cortina landfill project. I appreciate hearing from you on this very important issue.

I've taken the liberty of contacting the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to request a clarification of the tribe's public outreach and disclosure procedures as it concerns the landfill project. I will be back in touch with you as soon as I receive a response to my inquiry.

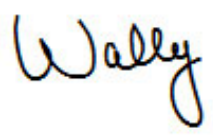
You may be interested to know that I also recently contacted Wayne Nastri, Administrator for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Region IX office in San Francisco, about the Cortina landfill project. As you may know, the EPA has regulatory and permitting authority over landfills on tribal trust land. During my conversation with Mr. Nastri, I expressed the very serious concerns that I have about this project, including its potential impact on residential and agricultural water supplies. I also shared with him the fact that Colusa voters' had overwhelmingly rejected the idea of new landfill in the county in 1998, and that the County Board of Supervisors and various local agricultural and environmental organizations had recently issued resolutions or letters of opposition to the Cortina project.

Mr. Nastri explained that the EPA is intent on giving this project a very detailed and thorough look as they proceed through the permitting process. He acknowledged that BIA's review of the proposal occurred approximately 10 years ago and did not include an analysis of the specific project that is under consideration today. He suggested that a new environmental assessment with the most up-to-date technical information was in order. Importantly, at my request Mr. Nastri committed to arranging two public meetings in Colusa County in order to educate the public about the project, solicit their views and concerns, and ultimately discuss the findings and conclusions reached by the agency. The meetings will be held in the evening so as many local citizens can attend as possible.

I hope you find this information helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact my office if I can be of

further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wally". The letters are cursive and connected, with a prominent "W" and a long, sweeping "y" tail.

WALLY HERGER  
Member of Congress