

**To :** "Farr, Doreen", "Adam, Peter "  
**From:** Robert Walton  
**Date:** February 7, 2016 at 1:49:50 PM PST

**Subject: Fee To Trust for Chumash Tribe**

Hello Supervisors,

We of the Santa Ynez Valley appreciate your help in defending our property and our rights. It seems the Chumash and their tribal leader, Mr. Armenta, are bound and determined to take the massive swaths of land acquired with their vast wealth off the tax roles and into FTT status. And of equal impact, is that they want their development to be in synch with their own codes, not local decision making.

Even if I were so inclined, I would not be able to build a 12 story tower in my backyard - yet the Chumash can. Given we cannot prevent them from doing whatever they want with the current reservation land, we ought to be approaching the federal government, the entity that oversees the BIA, the Department of Interior for help in battling this mini-goliath, and using our federal representatives to lead the charge .

There is nothing to prevent the Chumash from simply being the deepest drillers into the acquifers and sucking up our precious and so limited groundwater supplies. To me the concerns are uncontrolled development of whatever they like on any land their massive wealth chooses to acquires; then the issue of groundwater domination (they are not friendly neighbors and I don't expect that to change); and lastly the removal of their land from the tax base, which unfairly will shift those costs to the rest of us, granted mitigated by whatever the Chumash deign to contribute on a voluntary basis.

This is a beautiful land and one where I hope to remain. But it is difficult when one faces daily intimidation of the local goliath bully, the Chumash. With a different leader and attitude, things could be different, but it's not. And we request your help in fending off the unfair Chumash desired domination of the area of the county. It is certainly not like they are hurting for money. And the traffic that they bring with their huge buses and the casino traffic of citizens really has no place in a rural area, where the roads are narrow and of limited capacity. Do the Chumash want to fund a four lane divided highway into this valley? I'm afraid not, but they would like the capacity, and will no doubt ask for that some day - with contributions make to local legislator's re-election funds no doubt.

Your help with this problem is appreciated.

Sincerely, Rob

*Rob Walton, RN, MPA*