



September 1st, 2009

Kern County Planning Commission
2700 M Street
Suite 100
Bakersfield, CA 93301

SUBJECT: TEJON MOUNTAIN VILLAGE

Dear Chairman Sprague and Commissioners:

I write on behalf of the Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce – a local industry association which represents nearly 1,400 California businesses providing over 50,000 jobs – regarding the Tejon Mountain Village project. As many commissioners are aware, the Chamber’s mission is to promote a healthy and vibrant local economy. To that end, the Chamber supports development and growth that provide job creation, an increased tax base, and economic as well as aesthetic benefits to our region.

The development of Tejon Mountain Village will undoubtedly provide jobs, increase economic activity, and provide significant benefits for Kern County’s treasury. The project, once developed, will also be a unique tourism destination drawing in outside resources and tax dollars to Kern County.

Finally, the Chamber applauds Tejon Ranch Company for working with various environmental groups - including Sierra Club, the Audubon Society, and the Natural Resources Defense Council – to negotiate a landmark conservation agreement creating Tejon Preserve. The agreement is unprecedented in its nature, and provides for the conservation of nearly 90% of the ranch’s landholdings. The agreement also calls for energy efficiency measures in new buildings, waste recycling measures, transit options for workers and future residents, and environmental outreach programs for future residents. We have every expectation that Tejon Ranch Company will continue to be an excellent environmental steward for this unique piece of land.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debra L. Moreno".

Debra L. Moreno
President & CEO
Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce

Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce
Your Partner in Business