

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504

<http://feinstein.senate.gov>

July 13, 2011

Mr. Roger French  
PO Box 970  
Blythe, California 92226

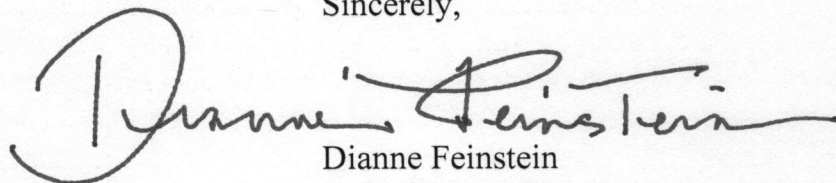
Dear Mr. French:

Thank you for writing to express your concerns about the dispute between the West Bank Homeowners Association and the Colorado River Indian Tribe. I appreciate hearing from you and welcome the opportunity to respond.

I directed my staff to thoroughly review your case, and the substantial administrative and case law surrounding the western boundary of the Colorado River Indian Tribe's reservation. As you probably know, the Supreme Court has stated that "the [West Bank Homeowners] Association's members do 'not own land in the disputed area . . .'" *Arizona v. California*, 530 U.S. 392, 399 n. 6 (2000). Furthermore, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit upheld the Colorado River Indian Tribe's eviction of another lessee in the California portion of their reservation along the west bank of the Colorado River for non-payment of rent just last month. *Water Wheel Camp Recreation Area v. LaRance*, No. 2:08-CV-00474-DGC, 2011 WL 2279188 (9th Cir. June 10, 2011). Unfortunately, after reviewing the circumstances I do not believe it would be appropriate for me to become involved in this ongoing legal dispute, and believe that this is a matter that is best left to the courts. Please know that I will continue to closely monitor this situation, and that I will keep your thoughts in mind should the Senate consider legislation on this issue.

Again, thank you for writing. Should have any additional questions or concerns, please feel free to contact my Washington D.C. office at (202) 224-3841 or visit my website at <http://feinstein.senate.gov>.

Sincerely,



Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator

DF:nq:dr