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**Sent:** Friday, September 02, 2011 12:15 PM

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**Subject:** Gregory Canyon Landfill/SB 833 update and CALL TO ACTION

**Importance:** High

Hi, everyone. As many of you know, Senate Bill 833 passed the Assembly on Wednesday by an overwhelming margin – 70 to 1, with 9 members not voting. This terrific result builds on our smashing success on the Senate side (32-3) and, with nearly unanimous votes from every policy committee that's heard the bill, confirms that our state legislators agree with us that protecting sacred sites and drinking water are important to all Californians.

But our work is not yet done. In the next day or two, the bill will go to Governor Brown's desk, at which time he will have 30 days to sign or veto the measure. So the next few weeks are a critical time – **we need to get as many letters, emails, and calls in to the Governor's office from as many individuals and groups as possible urging him to sign the bill.** Groups should send out action alerts to your members and activists as soon as you can. I think everyone on this list knows the main talking points, but I have included some below in case you need a starting point (use the arguments that make sense for your group).

Also, some of you may have seen the Union-Tribune's [editorial](#) this morning asking Gov. Brown to veto the bill. Given the U-T's steadfast support for the landfill project, the paper's position is not surprising. What is surprising, though, is how much they managed to get wrong in such a short piece. **We need folks to send letters to the editor to correct the errors in the editorial and urge the Governor to sign the bill.** I have included a few points below that you might wish to include.

Thanks to everyone on this list for your continued efforts and support – I know it's been a long, long road for many of you. Let's push this thing over the finish line and stop this project once and for all.

Thanks,  
Damon

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Bullet points for action alerts/letters to the Governor:

Governor Jerry Brown  
c/o State Capitol, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

- You should sign this bill because it will block the construction of a 300-acre garbage dump that would threaten the San Luis Rey River, desecrate one of the most important sacred sites of the Luiseño people, jeopardize a vital imported water pipeline, and destroy wildlife habitat.
- The landfill developer circumvented the normal siting and approval process with a ballot initiative, so that no elected official has had the opportunity to vote on the proposed project.
- The ballot initiative overrode the County supervisors' objections to the proposed site, took away the County's discretionary authority to deny the project, and misled the voters by describing the dump as a recycling and collection center.
- There is no waste crisis in San Diego County. Waste disposal has decreased by 25% since 2005. Increased recycling, new technologies for the resource-efficient management of waste, and the expansion of existing landfills make the proposed landfill unnecessary.
- EPA has concluded all landfill liners eventually leak. Moreover, the multi-layer liner for the landfill only covers 20% of the bottom of the landfill. It would be irresponsible to needlessly place our drinking water supplies in harm's way.

Responses to Union-Tribune editorial/letters to the editor (in addition to any of the points above):

- "A dozen local, state and federal agencies" have not said that the project complies with environmental regulations. Nor have those agencies granted permits. GCL has obtained only one permit – its solid waste facility permit from the San Diego County Local Enforcement Agency.
- The bill had strong bipartisan support and passed with overwhelming margins in both houses. The reasonable thing for Governor Brown to do is to agree with representatives from across California to protect sacred sites and San Diego County's drinking water.