



LOS ANGELES COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

June 16, 2008

John Bwarie
Deputy District Director
Office of Councilmember Greig Smith
200 North Spring Street, Room 405
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear John:

As the Southern California region's leading economic development organization, the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation is pleased to confirm our support for the Great Southern California ShakeOut taking place the week of November 12 – 16, 2008.

The Great ShakeOut demonstrates how California is a leader in planning for natural disasters and creating community awareness. We applaud your efforts in rallying support and encouraging the many businesses throughout the region to participate in the special events and to prepare for the next major earthquake. As science has told us, an earthquake is an inevitable part of our future, and by encouraging our businesses and communities to prepare now, we can greatly increase our chances of lessening the effects of the next major quake.

Having personally lived through the Northridge Earthquake and seen the billions of dollars of damage it did to our region, I know that another major earthquake would be severely disruptive to our economy. To that end, we will encourage our members to take part in the ShakeOut's activities, and our own LAEDC offices will participate in the drill in November. Together we can make a difference!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Allen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bill Allen
President and CEO