



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION
May 25, 2007

CONTACT: Leslie Ridgeway (619) 685-2239
Barona Contact: Jay Bart (619) 443-2300

COUNTY INVESTIGATES CASE OF TB AT BARONA RESORT *Resort Worker Was Treated for Tuberculosis*

The San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) is working with Barona Valley Ranch Resort and Casino to notify individuals who may have been exposed to tuberculosis (TB). A kitchen worker at Barona Valley Ranch Resort and Casino was diagnosed with TB. The period of infection has been determined to be from Jan. 16 through May 13, 2007.

“The risk to the general public is low because the worker did not have contact with casino patrons,” says Dr. Wilma Wooten, Interim County Deputy Public Health Officer. “Although the risk is low, it is better to be cautious, and Barona is working closely with HHS Public Health Services to notify individuals who may have been exposed.”

Testing of staff members will be conducted next week at Barona.

TB is a respiratory illness requiring close contact for transmission, and is not transmissible through food. Symptoms of active TB include persistent cough, fever, night sweats and unexplained weight loss. Most people who are exposed to TB do not develop the disease.

Individuals with no medical provider, or anyone who would like more information, may call the County TB Control Program at (619) 692-8621.

Tuberculosis is not uncommon in the San Diego region. During 2006, there were 315 total cases of TB in San Diego County.

###