RÉSOLUTION OF THE
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' STANDING COMMITTEE
25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- First Year, 2023

AN ACTION RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES; RESCINDING RESOLUTION NABIJA-05-20 "OPPOSING H.R. 2181 AND S. 1079, 'THE CHACO HERITAGE AREA PROTECTION ACT OF 2019', UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE BUFFER ZONE SURROUNDING CHACO CULTURAL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK IS REDUCED TO FIVE (5) MILES;" OPPOSING THE WITHDRAWAL OF APPROXIMATELY 351,000 ACRES OF PUBLIC LAND SURROUNDING CHACO CANYON

WHEREAS:

A. The Navajo Nation established the Resources and Development Committee as a Navajo Nation Council standing committee and as such empowered the Resources and Development Committee with authority to establish Navajo Nation policy with respect to the optimum utilization of all Navajo Nation resources and to protect the rights, interests, sacred sites and freedoms of the Navajo Nation and People to such resources, now and for future generations. 2 N.N.C. §§ 500(A) and (C)(1).

B. The Navajo Nation established the Naabik'íyáti' Committee as a Navajo Nation Council standing committee and as such empowered Naabik'íyáti' Committee to coordinate all federal programs and to assist and coordinate all requests for information, appearances and testimony relating to federal legislation impacting the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §§ 700(A), 701(A)(4), 701(A)(6).

C. The Navajo Nation has a government-to-government relationship with the United States of America, Treaty of 1868, Aug. 12, 1868, 15 Stat. 667.

D. The Navajo Nation Council approved Naabik'íyáti' Committee Resolution NABIJA-05-20, titled, "OPPOSING H.R. 2181 AND S. 1079, 'THE CHACO HERITAGE AREA PROTECTION ACT OF 2019', UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE BUFFER ZONE SURROUNDING CHACO CULTURAL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK IS REDUCED TO FIVE (5) MILES" on January 23, 2020, which is attached as **Exhibit 1**.

E. The purpose of Resolution NABIJA-05-20 was to oppose federal legislation proposing a ten-mile buffer zone around Chaco Canyon and to offer a five-mile buffer zone as an alternative.

F. While the 24th Navajo Nation Council sought to minimize negative economic impacts with a smaller buffer zone, the 25th Navajo Nation Council is concerned that any buffer zone, in addition

to the withdrawal of public land, will have a detrimental impact to Navajo Nation allottees by preventing the development of new oil and gas resources on allotments as a result of the allotments being landlocked.

G. The Navajo Nation Chapters of Pueblo Pintado, Whitehorse Lake, Lake Valley, and Nageezi (the "Chapters") have expressed opposition to land withdrawal and the imposition of any buffer zone around Chaco Canyon.

H. The Chapters submitted resolutions in opposition to a buffer zone as follows:

1. Resolution of Pueblo Pintado, PPC-02-2023-022, attached as **Exhibit 2**;

2. Resolution of Whitehorse Lake, WHLC-2-22-033, attached as **Exhibit 3**;

3. Resolution of Lake Valley, LVC-FEB12-029, attached as **Exhibit 4**; and

4. Resolution of Nageezi, NC-23-032, attached as **Exhibit 5**.

I. The Chapters recognize the detrimental economic impact to the Navajo allottees should a buffer zone of any size be imposed around Chaco Canyon. If a buffer zone is adopted, the Navajo allottees who rely on the income realized from oil and gas royalties will be pushed into greater poverty.

J. Pueblo Pintado and Nageezi Chapters also challenge the need for a buffer zone based on the current fence line that serves as a boundary to safeguard Chaco Canyon, as indicated in **Exhibits 2 and 5**, respectively.

K. The 25th Navajo Nation Council wishes to support the Navajo Nation members who hold allotted land in the area around Chaco Canyon and allow those members to maximize their economic interests.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

A. The Navajo Nation rescinds Resolution NABIJA-05-23 titled, "OPPOSING H.R. 2181 AND S. 1079, 'THE CHACO HERITAGE AREA PROTECTION ACT OF 2019', UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE BUFFER ZONE SURROUNDING CHACO CULTURAL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK IS REDUCED TO FIVE (5) MILES."

B. The Navajo Nation opposes the United States intent of withdrawing approximately 351,000 acres around Chaco Canyon,

C. The Navajo Nation does not support a buffer zone around Chaco Canyon.

CERTIFICATION

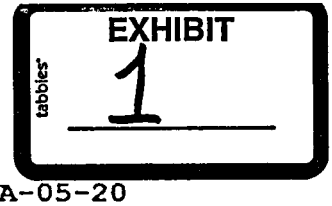
I, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the 25th Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting in Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona), at which a quorum was present and that the same was passed by a vote of 15 in Favor, and 01 Opposed, on this 27th day of April 2023.

Honorable Crystalyne Curley, Chairwoman
Naabik'íyáti' Committee

5/1/23
Date

Motion: Honorable Norman M. Begay
Second: Honorable Brenda Jesus

Chairwoman Crystalyne Curley not voting



NABIJA-05-20

RESOLUTION OF THE
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE
24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- Second Year, 2020

AN ACTION RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES; OPPOSING H.R. 2181 AND S. 1079, "THE CHACO HERITAGE AREA PROTECTION ACT OF 2019", UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE BUFFER ZONE SURROUNDING CHACO CULTURAL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK IS REDUCED TO FIVE (5) MILES

WHEREAS:

A. The Navajo Nation established the Resources and Development Committee as a Navajo Nation Council standing committee and as such empowered the Resources and Development Committee with authority to establish Navajo Nation policy with respect to the optimum utilization of all Navajo Nation resources and to protect the rights, interests, sacred sites and freedoms of the Navajo Nation and People to such resources, now and for future generations. 2 N.N.C. §§ 500 (A) and (C)(1).

B. The Navajo Nation established the Naabik'íyáti' Committee as a Navajo Nation Council standing committee and as such empowered Naabik'íyáti' Committee to coordinate all federal programs and to assist and coordinate all requests for information, appearances and testimony relating to federal legislation impacting the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. §§ 700 (A), 701 (A)(4), 701(A)(6).

C. The Navajo Nation has a government-to-government relationship with the United States of America, Treaty of 1868, Aug. 12, 1868, 15 Stat. 667.

D. H.R. 2181 and S. 1079, are identical pieces of legislation in the House and Senate of the United States 116th Congress, 1st Session, that are intended to enact the Chaco Cultural Heritage Area Protection Act of 2019 ("Act") for the purpose of protecting archeological, sacred, and historic resources located throughout the Greater Chaco region, which spans the States of New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, and Colorado. H.R. 2181 attached as **Exhibit A.** S. 1079 attached as **Exhibit B.**

E. H.R. 2181 was introduced by a New Mexico delegation of Congressman Luján, with Congresswomen Torres-Small and Haaland and Congressman Grijalva; S. 1079 was introduced by New Mexico Senators Udall and Heinrich.

F. While the Act recognizes archaeological, sacred, and historic resources located throughout the Greater Chaco region, spanning the States of New Mexico, Arizona, Utah and Colorado, the Navajo Nation's cultural connection and affiliation to the Greater Chaco Canyon area is omitted and the role of Chaco Canyon in Navajo life and ceremony is ignored.

G. The Act notes that many Pueblos and Indian Tribes claim cultural affiliation with the Chacoan people, but does not recognize the Navajo Nation even though the greater part of the "Chacoan World" is within the boundaries of the Navajo Nation reservation and aboriginal territory, primarily in the Eastern Navajo Agency.

H. The Act does not include any plans to protect sites other than Chacoan sites even though there are literally hundreds, if not thousands, of historic and contemporary places within the proposed 10-mile buffer zone where traditional Navajo ceremonies have taken place; where traditional Navajo offerings are made (sacred places, such as springs, rock formations); where sacred and herbal medicines and foods are collected by Navajo people. The use of these sacred places, plants and water resources can be traced through the teachings and traditions that came from the Chacoans who became certain Navajo clans. *See* Report by Navajo Nation Heritage and Historic Preservation Department attached as **Exhibit C.**

I. The Act does not recognize Navajo ceremonial and cultural traditions even though there are many present-day Navajo Holy Way (Diyin k'ehgo) ceremonies that can trace a part of their origins to Chaco Canyon or Chacoan Outliers. These ceremonies include: • 'Atsájí (Eagle Way) • Diné biníłchi'jí (Navajo Wind Way) • Dziłk'iji (Mountain Top Way) • Na'at'oyee (Shooting Way) • Tóee (Water Way) • Tł'ééji (Night Way) • Anaa'jí (Enemy Way). **Exhibit C.**

J. The Navajo Nation has been an exemplary steward of the cultural resources throughout Navajo lands, including the area around Chaco Canyon, and has a history of working to protect archaeological, sacred, and historic resources located in the Greater Chaco region. For example, between 1992 and 2014, the Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department had a Chaco Protection Sites Program whose primary objective was to oversee Chaco Protection Sites on Navajo land. The Program was authorized by Congress pursuant to P.L. 96-550 which identified thirty-nine (39) Chaco "great houses" with more than half of such "great houses" located on Navajo lands. The remainder of the "great houses" are spread amongst U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), State of New Mexico, and private lands. **Exhibit C.**

K. The Chaco Protection Sites Program was administered through a cooperative agreement with the National Park Service (NPS) wherein the Navajo Nation and the NPS both agreed to "coordinate and mutually assist in protection and resource management actions" within the Chacoan Canyon NPS unit and on Navajo lands and to comply with all applicable Federal and Tribal laws in the preservation of historic and prehistoric sites. **Exhibit C.**

L. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and BLM are bound by the National Historic Preservation Act (1966, as amended) to identify and manage cultural resources within their jurisdictions and on federal lands, the BIA (for Individual Indian Allotments) and the BLM are required to consult with the Navajo Nation on any effects of mineral extraction activities on cultural resources. **Exhibit C.**

M. The Act's restrictions on extraction operations within the ten mile buffer will have a severe negative economic impact on Navajos owning allotted lands within the buffer zone whose livelihood is derived from royalty payments for oil and gas development on their individually-owned lands.

N. While the Act says it will not affect the mineral rights of an allottee, it will not allow the people to capitalize on their resources because they will not be able to transport the

resources out. The Navajo Nation and the people should be compensated for the loss of opportunity.

O. All the needed improvements for the Navajo communities are ruled out in advance. Which will make it harder to serve the Navajo people and provide a better quality of life.

P. Navajo Nation local governments in and near the Act's impact area, i.e., Huerfano Chapter, Lake Valley Chapter, Nageezi Chapter, Pueblo Pintado Chapter, White Rock Local Government, and Eastern Navajo Agency Council, all fear the severe negative economic consequences to their Navajo members livelihood, sustainability and well-being that will be imposed on their communities by the Act's 10 mile buffer zone; and have passed resolutions, attached as **Exhibit D**, imploring that the buffer zone to be reduced to five (5) miles.

Q. A data page from the Federal Indian Minerals Office is attached as **Exhibit E.**

R. The Federal Indian Minerals Office has supplied the figures on the number of allottees who are affected by the 10 mile buffer zone and the proposed 5 mile buffer zone. See **Exhibit E.**

S. HR-1158, The Consolidated Appropriations Act 2020; PL116-93 approved funding for $1 million dollars for a Cultural Resources Study within the proposed 10-mile buffer zone. The Navajo Nation requests the Department of Interior to allocate the majority of this funding for a Navajo cultural resources study as this proposed 10-mile buffer is entirely within Navajo Nation lands and jurisdiction. The Navajo Nation also requests BLM to provide an updated map of the proposed 10-mile and 5-mile buffer zone compromise, outlining the number of Navajo allottees that will be affected by this buffer zones. The Navajo Nation also requests the Department of Interior to complete official Tribal Consultation on the Navajo Nation.

T. The Navajo Nation finds it in the best long-term interests of the Navajo People and their communities that the Act's buffer

zone surrounding the Chaco Culture National Historical Park be reduced to 5 miles.

U. The Navajo Nation finds it in the best long-term interests of the Navajo People and their communities to oppose the Act until such time as the buffer zone surrounding the Chaco Culture National Historical Park is reduced to 5 miles.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

A. The Navajo Nation respectfully opposes "The Chaco Heritage Area Protection Act Of 2019", H.R. 2181 and S. 1079, until such time as the buffer zone surrounding Chaco Cultural National Historical Park is reduced to five (5) miles.

B. The Navajo Nation respectfully requests the United States Congress and Senate, specifically Congressmen Luján and Grijalva, Congresswomen Torres-Small and Haaland, and Senators Udall and Heinrich, to take all steps necessary to amend H.R. 2181 AND S. 1079 so that the buffer zone surrounding Chaco Cultural National Historical Park is reduced to five (5) miles.

CERTIFICATION

I, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the 24th Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting in Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona), at which a quorum was present and that the same was passed by a vote of 18 in Favor, and 01 Opposed, on this 23rd day of January 2020.

Honorable Seth Damon, Chairman
Naabik'íyáti' Committee

Motion: Honorable Vince James
Second: Honorable Elmer P. Begay

Chairman Seth Damon not voting

EXHIBIT
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A

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2181

To provide for the withdrawal and protection of certain Federal land in the State of New Mexico.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 9, 2019

Mr. LUJAN (for himself, Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, Ms. HAALAND, and Mr. GRIJALVA) introduced the following bill, which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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A BILL

To provide for the withdrawal and protection of certain Federal land in the State of New Mexico.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Chaco Cultural Heritage Area Protection Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) there are archeological, sacred, and historic resources located throughout the Greater Chaco re-

gion, which spans the States of New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, and Colorado;

(2) the Chaco Culture National Historical Park, a unit of the National Park System and a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization World Heritage Site, is known around the world—

(A) for multi-story buildings constructed by the Chacoan people that are still standing; and

(B) as the nerve center of a culture that spread throughout and dominated the Four Corners area during the 9th, 10th, and 11th centuries;

(3) the Chacoan people built hundreds of miles of roads and a network of villages, shrines, and communications sites, many of which are still visible;

(4) many Pueblos and Indian Tribes in the Four Corners area claim cultural affiliation with, and are descended from, the Chacoan people;

(5) the landscape around the Chaco Culture National Historical Park includes hundreds of internationally and nationally significant cultural resources, including prehistoric roads, communities, and shrines—

(A) many of which are related to the resources found in the Chaco Culture National Historical Park, including the resources recognized by the amendment made by section 3 of the Chacoan Outliers Protection Act of 1995 (16 U.S.C. 410ii note; Public Law 104–11) providing for additional Chaco Culture Archeological Protection Sites;

(B) a significant number of which are concentrated within the immediate area surrounding the Chaco Culture National Historical Park; and

(C) that are commonly recognized by archeologists;

(6) long considered one of the best places for stargazing in the world, Chaco Culture National Historical Park—

(A) in 1991, established a night skies protection initiative and interpretive program to protect the night sky in the area of the Chaco Culture National Historical Park; and

(B) in 2013, was certified as an International Dark Sky Park;

(7) the Greater Chaco landscape in the State of New Mexico extends beyond Chaco Culture National Historical Park and encompasses—

(A) local communities, including Pueblos and Indian Tribes; and

(B) public land, which includes additional cultural resources and sacred sites;

(8) for over 110 years, the Federal Government has recognized the importance of the area in which the Chacoan people lived and has acted to protect historic and sacred sites in the area, including—

(A) Chaco Canyon, which was designated as a National Monument in 1907 and as the Chaco Culture National Historical Park in 1980;

(B) the Aztec Ruins, which was designated as a National Monument in 1923 and expanded in each of 1928, 1930, 1948, and 1988; and

(C) the 39 Chaco Culture Archeological Protection Sites designated in 1995;

(9) recognizes that the standard for Tribal consultation is outlined in Executive Order 13175 (25 U.S.C. 5301 note; relating to consultation and coordination with Indian Tribal governments);

(10) extensive natural gas development has occurred in the Greater Chaco region that affect the health, safety, economies, and quality of life of local communities;

(11) renewed interest in oil exploration and production within the Mancos/Gallup Shale play has increased the potential for—

(A) significant impacts on resources and visitor experiences at the Chaco Culture National Historical Park; and

(B) additional impacts on local communities in the Greater Chaco region, including Pueblos and Indian Tribes;

(12) a mineral withdrawal in the landscape around the Chaco Culture National Historical Park would prevent leasing and development in the immediate area surrounding the Chaco Culture National Historical Park, which would protect resources and visitor experiences at the Chaco Culture National Historical Park; and

(13) additional studies and protective measures should be undertaken to address health, safety, and environmental impacts on communities and interests of Pueblos and Indian Tribes in the Greater Chaco landscape

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) COVERED LEASE.—The term "covered lease" means any oil and gas lease for Federal land—

(A) on which drilling operations have not been commenced before the end of the primary term of the applicable lease;

(B) that is not producing oil or gas in paying quantities; and

(C) that is not subject to a valid cooperative or unit plan of development or operation certified by the Secretary to be necessary.

(2) FEDERAL LAND.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term "Federal land" means—

(i) any Federal land or interest in Federal land that is within the boundaries of the Chaco Cultural Heritage Withdrawal Area, as depicted on the Map; and

(ii) any land or interest in land located within the boundaries of the Chaco Cultural Heritage Withdrawal Area, as depicted on the Map, that is acquired by the Federal Government after the date of enactment of this Act.

(B) EXCLUSION.—The term "Federal land" does not include trust land (as defined in section 3765 of title 38, United States Code).

(3) MAP.—The term "Map" means the map prepared by the Bureau of Land Management entitled "Chaco Cultural Heritage Withdrawal Area" and dated April 2, 2019.

(4) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 4. WITHDRAWAL OF CERTAIN FEDERAL LAND IN THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to any valid existing rights, the Federal land is withdrawn from—

(1) all forms of entry, appropriation, and disposal under the public land laws;

(2) location, entry, and patent under mining laws; and

(3) operation of the mineral leasing, mineral materials, and geothermal leasing laws.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The Map shall be made available for inspection at each appropriate office of the Bureau of Land Management.

(c) CONVEYANCE OF FEDERAL LAND TO INDIAN TRIBES.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), the Secretary may convey the Federal land to, or exchange the Federal

land with, an Indian Tribe in accordance with a resource management plan that is approved as of the date of enactment of this Act, as subsequently developed, amended, or revised in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) and any other applicable law.

SEC. 5. OIL AND GAS LEASE MANAGEMENT.

(a) TERMINATION OF NON-PRODUCING LEASES.—A covered lease—

(1) shall automatically terminate by operation of law pursuant to section 17(c) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 226(c)) and subpart 3108 of title 43, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations); and

(2) may not be extended by the Secretary.

(b) WITHDRAWAL OF TERMINATED, RELINQUISHED, OR ACQUIRED LEASES.—Any portion of the Federal land subject to a covered lease terminated under subsection (a) or otherwise or relinquished or acquired by the United States on or after the date of enactment of this Act is withdrawn from—

(1) all forms of entry, appropriation, and disposal under the public land laws;

(2) location, entry, and patent undermining laws; and

(3) operation of the mineral leasing, mineral materials, and geothermal leasing laws.

SEC. 6. EFFECT.

Nothing in this Act—

(1) affects the mineral rights of an Indian Tribe or member of an Indian Tribe to trust land or allotment land; or

(2) precludes improvements to, or rights-of-way for water, power, or road development on, the Federal land to assist communities adjacent to or in the vicinity of the Federal land.



116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1079

To provide for the withdrawal and protection of certain Federal land in the State of New Mexico

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 9, 2019

Mr. UDALL (for himself and Mr. HEINRICH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To provide for the withdrawal and protection of certain Federal land in the State of New Mexico

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Chaco Cultural Heritage Area Protection Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) there are archeological, sacred, and historic resources located throughout the Greater Chaco re-

gion, which spans the States of New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, and Colorado,

(2) the Chaco Culture National Historical Park, a unit of the National Park System and a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization World Heritage Site, is known around the world—

(A) for multi-story buildings constructed by the Chacoan people that are still standing; and

(B) as the nerve center of a culture that spread throughout and dominated the Four Corners area during the 9th, 10th, and 11th centuries;

(3) the Chacoan people built hundreds of miles of roads and a network of villages, shrines, and communications sites, many of which are still visible;

(4) many Pueblos and Indian Tribes in the Four Corners area claim cultural affiliation with, and are descended from, the Chacoan people;

(5) the landscape around the Chaco Culture National Historical Park includes hundreds of internationally and nationally significant cultural resources, including prehistoric roads, communities, and shrines—

(A) many of which are related to the resources found in the Chaco Culture National Historical Park, including the resources recognized by the amendment made by section 3 of the Chacoan Outliers Protection Act of 1995 (16 U.S.C. 410ii note; Public Law 104–11) providing for additional Chaco Culture Archeological Protection Sites;

(B) a significant number of which are concentrated within the immediate area surrounding the Chaco Culture National Historical Park; and

(C) that are commonly recognized by archeologists;

(6) long considered one of the best places for stargazing in the world, Chaco Culture National Historical Park—

(A) in 1991, established a night skies protection initiative and interpretive program to protect the night sky in the area of the Chaco Culture National Historical Park; and

(B) in 2013, was certified as an International Dark Sky Park;

(7) the Greater Chaco landscape in the State of New Mexico extends beyond Chaco Culture National Historical Park and encompasses—

(A) local communities, including Pueblos and Indian Tribes; and

(B) public land, which includes additional cultural resources and sacred sites;

(8) for over 110 years, the Federal Government has recognized the importance of the area in which the Chacoan people lived and has acted to protect historic and sacred sites in the area, including—

(A) Chaco Canyon, which was designated as a National Monument in 1907 and as the Chaco Culture National Historical Park in 1980;

(B) the Aztec Ruins, which was designated as a National Monument in 1923 and expanded in each of 1928, 1930, 1948, and 1988; and

(C) the 39 Chaco Culture Archeological Protection Sites designated in 1995;

(9) recognizes that the standard for Tribal consultation is outlined in Executive Order 13175 (25 U.S.C. 5301 note; relating to consultation and coordination with Indian Tribal governments);

(10) extensive natural gas development has occurred in the Greater Chaco region that affect the health, safety, economies, and quality of life of local communities;

(11) renewed interest in oil exploration and production within the Mancos/Gallup Shale play has increased the potential for—

(A) significant impacts on resources and visitor experiences at the Chaco Culture National Historical Park; and

(B) additional impacts on local communities in the Greater Chaco region, including Pueblos and Indian Tribes;

(12) a mineral withdrawal in the landscape around the Chaco Culture National Historical Park would prevent leasing and development in the immediate area surrounding the Chaco Culture National Historical Park, which would protect resources and visitor experiences at the Chaco Culture National Historical Park; and

(13) additional studies and protective measures should be undertaken to address health, safety, and environmental impacts on communities and interests of Pueblos and Indian Tribes in the Greater Chaco landscape.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) COVERED LEASE.—The term "covered lease" means any oil and gas lease for Federal land—

(A) on which drilling operations have not been commenced before the end of the primary term of the applicable lease;

(B) that is not producing oil or gas in paying quantities; and

(C) that is not subject to a valid cooperative or unit plan of development or operation certified by the Secretary to be necessary.

(2) FEDERAL LAND.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term "Federal land" means—

(i) any Federal land or interest in Federal land that is within the boundaries of the Chaco Cultural Heritage Withdrawal Area, as depicted on the Map; and

(ii) any land or interest in land located within the boundaries of the Chaco Cultural Heritage Withdrawal Area, as depicted on the Map, that is acquired by the Federal Government after the date of enactment of this Act.

(B) EXCLUSION.—The term "Federal land" does not include trust land (as defined in section 3765 of title 38, United States Code).

(3) MAP.—The term "Map" means the map prepared by the Bureau of Land Management entitled "Chaco Cultural Heritage Withdrawal Area" and dated April 2, 2019.

(4) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 4. WITHDRAWAL OF CERTAIN FEDERAL LAND IN THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to any valid existing rights, the Federal land is withdrawn from—

(1) all forms of entry, appropriation, and disposal under the public land laws;

(2) location, entry, and patent under mining laws; and

(3) operation of the mineral leasing, mineral materials, and geothermal leasing laws.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The Map shall be made available for inspection at each appropriate office of the Bureau of Land Management.

(c) CONVEYANCE OF FEDERAL LAND TO INDIAN TRIBES.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), the Secretary may convey the Federal land to, or exchange the Federal

land with, an Indian Tribe in accordance with a resource management plan that is approved as of the date of enactment of this Act, as subsequently developed, amended, or revised in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) and any other applicable law.

SEC. 5. OIL AND GAS LEASE MANAGEMENT.

(a) TERMINATION OF NON-PRODUCING LEASES.—A covered lease—

(1) shall automatically terminate by operation of law pursuant to section 17(e) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 226(e)) and subpart 3108 of title 43, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations); and

(2) may not be extended by the Secretary.

(b) WITHDRAWAL OF TERMINATED, RELINQUISHED, OR ACQUIRED LEASES.—Any portion of the Federal land subject to a covered lease terminated under subsection (a) or otherwise or relinquished or acquired by the United States on or after the date of enactment of this Act is withdrawn from—

(1) all forms of entry, appropriation, and disposal under the public land laws;

(2) location, entry, and patent undermining laws; and

(3) operation of the mineral leasing, mineral materials, and geothermal leasing laws.

SEC. 6. EFFECT.

Nothing in this Act—

(1) affects the mineral rights of an Indian Tribe or member of an Indian Tribe to trust land or allotment land; or

(2) precludes improvements to, or rights-of-way for water, power, or road development on, the Federal land to assist communities adjacent to or in the vicinity of the Federal land.

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Navajos, *Anasazi*, Chaco Canyon, and NNC Legislation No. 0366-19

Richard M Begay, Dep't Manager/THPO
Navajo Nation Heritage and Historic Preservation Department
December 18, 2019

The Navajo Nation Council Resources and Development Committee (RDC) is considering Legislation No. 0366-19 entitled "An Action Relating to Resources and Development Naabik'íyáti' Committees: Opposing H.R. 2181 and S. 1079, 'The Chaco Heritage Area Protection Act of 2019', until such time as the Buffer zone surround Chaco Cultural National Historic Park is reduced to five (5) Miles". The sponsor, Delegate Mark A. Freeland (Becenti, Lake Valley, Nahodishgish, Standing Rock, Whiterock, Huerfano, Nageezi, and Crownpoint), has requested comments from the Navajo Nation Heritage and Historic Preservation Department (NNHHPD) regarding his legislation.

Navajo Nation President Jonathon Nez supports the 10-Mile Buffer Zone, and I cannot disregard his decision. However, there are some important omissions in the proposed congressional legislation H.R. 2181. For instance, the legislation uses the terms "Pueblos and Indian Tribes" and does not specifically identify the Navajo Nation, although the greater part of the "Chacoan World" is within the Navajo Nation, mostly in the Eastern Navajo Agency. The information below is meant to inform the Navajo Nation Council, the RDC, and others about the importance of Chaco Canyon to the Navajo People, which is not evident in H.R. 2181.

Brief Background

NNHHPD has worked hard to protect Chacoan places before the present-day efforts to establish a buffer zone around Chaco Culture National Historical Park. I also hope Delegate Freeland uses the information to strengthen his proposed legislation before the Navajo Nation Council.

Chaco Canyon, with all its associated outlying places, and the people who lived there, the Anasazi (*Anaasázi*)[1], are integral to the formation of the Navajo People. Navajo people have an enormous amount of oral history about Chaco Canyon. Our oral and ceremonial traditions tell us about how the Chacoan system developed, who lived there, about the architecture, the fields of corn, squash, and other corps, about the springs, and so on. These histories recount the cultural, social, and ceremonial traditions at Chaco Canyon and elsewhere. The people and the teachings that came from Pueblo Bonito (*Tsé Bíyah 'Anii'ahí*), Pueblo Alto (*Nááhwiłbiihí Bikin*), Kin Ya'a Ruin (*Kin Yaa'á*), Shabik'eschee Village (*Tsé Bik'e'eschí*), and other Chacoan places are part of the everyday life of Navajo People today.

[1] There is much public debate about the meaning of the word "Anasazi." The base Navajo word is Anaasází, or simply naasází. The word has multiple meanings in multiple contexts. Here I use Anasazi to refer to the "prehistoric" inhabitants of the Southwest. The Navajo word is also used to refer to Paleo-Indian, Archaic, Basketmaker to PI-PIV communities, and other prehistoric populations in the Southwest, such as the Hohokam Other terms currently in use for the Anasazi include Ancestral People, or Ancestral Pueblo. The Navajo Nation objects to the term Ancestral Pueblo because it erases the Navajo affiliation with the Anasazi as demonstrated below.

The Former Chaco Protection Sites Program

Between 1992 and 2014, the Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department[2] had a Chaco Protection Sites Program. The program was authorized by Congress (P.L. 96-550) and administered through a cooperative agreement with National Park Service (NPS). The primary objective of the program was to oversee Chaco Protection Sites on Navajo land. The legislation identified 39 Chaco "great houses," and more than half of them are on Navajo lands. The remainder are on U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), State of New Mexico, and private lands. In that agreement, the Navajo Nation and the NPS agreed to "coordinate and mutually assist in protection and resource management actions" both within the Chacoan Canyon NPS unit and on Navajo lands. Both parties also agreed to comply with all applicable Federal and Tribal laws in the preservation of historic and prehistoric sites.

Some notable projects include work at Big House at Manuelito Canyon, Newcomb/Cemetery Ridge (prehistoric fields and irrigation system), Navajo rock art in Chaco Canyon, and other places within the Chaco Canyon and Aztec National Monument park units. The Chaco Protection Sites Program sought to:

- Protect sovereignty and preserve material remains of Navajo past, present, and future
- Correct 100+ years of misinformation published/taught by anthropologists and archaeologists about Navajo history in Southwest
- Strengthen Navajo ties to the landscape
- Encourage respect for Navajo traditional history (songs and ceremonies)

The Navajo Nation has actively participated in the protection and management of the remains of the Anasazi, the ancestors of certain Navajo clans[3]. Aside from the Chaco Program, NNHHPD has worked closely with the NPS, as well as other affiliated tribes, to repatriate and rebury human remains and associated funerary items within park lands. Reburial activities have taken place at Chaco Canyon, Aztec Ruins National Monument, and Mesa Verde National Park, and other park units in the past two decades. We have worked cooperatively with NPS and other tribes to ensure the remains and the places of the ancestors are protected and treated with respect.

Although the Chaco Protection Sites Program no longer exists at NNHHPD, we have used the information collected by that program to continue to protect Chacoan sites on Navajo lands. And just as important, we work with local Navajo residents to protect their cultural heritage, including Anasazi sites.

In 2017 and 2018, NNHHPD approached NPS to reinstate the Chaco Protection Sites Program, but there was no interest from NPS. We will continue to pursue funding for it.

[2] The Historic Preservation Department and the Archaeology Department merged in 2016, becoming the Heritage and Historic Preservation Department.

[3] The claim of Anasazi ancestry is not exclusive. The Pueblo Indians of New Mexico and the Hopi Tribe of Arizona claim descendancy from the Anasazi, and the Navajo Nation does not dispute their claims of affiliation.

Ceremonial History

The most prominent story about Chaco Canyon is about *Nááhwiiłbiihí*, the Gambler. In Navajo oral history he enslaved the Chacoan people and forced them to build the structures at Chaco Canyon. The Gambler may be a person or a group of people. In any case, the Holy People, *Diyin Dine'é*, groomed a Challenger to defeat him. The story of the Challenger goes as far west as Rainbow Bridge, north of Navajo Mountain. The teachings about the Gambler played an important role in the public discussions about the Navajo Nation's venture into casinos more than 20 years ago.

Many present-day Navajo Holy Way (*Diyin k'ehgo*) ceremonies can trace a part of their origins to Chaco Canyon or Chacoan Outliers. These ceremonies include:

- *'Atsáji* (Eagle Way)
- *Diné binílchi'ji* (Navajo Wind Way)
- *Dzilk'iji* (Mountain Top Way)
- *Na'at'oyee* (Shooting Way)
- *Tóee* (Water Way)
- *Tl'éédji* (Night Way)
- *Anaa'ji* (Enemy Way)

Other ceremonies that are no longer practiced, or only have minor rituals, such as *Ajilee* (Prostitution Way), *'lich'ahji* (Moth/Frenzy Way), *Hoozhónee* (Beauty Way), *Maii'ji* (Coyote Way), and *Yóee* (Bead Way), also reference Chacoan places.

Unfortunately, H.R. 2181 does not mention any plans to protect sites other than Chacoan sites. There are literally hundreds, if not thousands, of historic and contemporary places within the proposed 10-mile buffer zone where traditional Navajo ceremonies have taken place. Many people do not want these areas disturbed. Additionally, there are places where traditional offerings are made (sacred places such as springs, rock formations), and where sacred and herbal medicines and foods are collected. Other places include eagle gathering places, *'ood*, and antelope traps/corrals, *nílʔdzíín*. The use of these sacred places and plant and water resources can be traced through the teachings and traditions that came from the Chacoan places, from Chacoans who became certain Navajo clans.

An example of a nonstructural place that prominently figures in Navajo tradition is Fajada Butte, *Tsé Diyili*. It is an important place in several ceremonies, especially the Water Way, Night Way, and Mountain Top Way ceremonies. It is the home of *'Asdzáán Anílghánii* (Poverty woman/Woman who will shrivel you up), and the butte should not be climbed for recreational purposes. In the early 1990s, I went on top of Fajada Butte with the late Alfred Yazzie, Dabney Ford, NPS archeologist, Klara Kelley (private consultant), and others to leave offerings. We sang songs and uttered prayers. We talked about the Sun Dagger[4], and its role in Navajo ceremonialism and cosmology.

Hózhóójí (Beauty Way, but known as Blessingway, to distinguish it from *Hoozhónee*, Beauty Way, a Holy Way Ceremony) tells the story of the Navajo from the beginning, *hodeeyáádáá*, and small versions of it are incorporated into all Navajo ceremonies. The Blessingway narrative integrates the totality of origins of Navajo clans and ceremonies. It includes the story of creation of the earth, and the

[4] The Sun Dagger is a rock image related to the tracking of the Sun's seasonal movements.

peopling of the Southwest. It tells us how to use the plants, the water, the rocks, the trees, the soil/dirt, and so forth. Chaco Canyon is part of the story of our people, and it is a vital part of the Blessingway ceremony. The role of Chaco Canyon in Navajo life and ceremony is not evident in H.R. 2181.

Clan Origins

The most prominent clan with origins in Chaco communities is Kinyaa'áanii (Towering House People). They originated from *Kinyaa'á*, a Chacoan Outlier near present-day Crownpoint, NM. The clan has three well-known subdivisions: *Dził t'ahnii Kinyaa'áanii* (Mountainside People *Kinyaa'áanii*), *Dootl'izhii Dine'é Kinyaa'áanii* (Turquoise People *Kinyaa'áanii)*, and *Tázhii Dine'é Kinyaa'áanii* (Turkey People *Kinyaa'áanii*). There may be other subdivisions of *Kinyaa'áanii* as well. Other Navajo clans that come from Chacoan sites include:

- *Áshiihi* (Salt Clan), Pueblo Pintado, and Wijiji
- *Hashk'aa hadzohi* (Yucca Hill People), Pueblo Pintado, and Chaco Canyon
- *Kin łichii'ii* (Red House People), Kinlichee Pueblo (Arizona)
- *Ma'ii deeshgiizhnii* (Coyote Pass People/Jemez Pueblo), Pueblo Pintado
- *Ta'neeszahnii* (Dark Water Plant), Salmon Ruins
- *Tó 'aheedliinii* (People of the Confluence), Confluence of the San Juan and Los Pinos Rivers, and Aztec Ruin
- *Tł'ízí łani* (Many Goats), Salmon Ruins
- *Tł'ááschí'i* (Red Cheek People), Chaco Canyon and surrounding area
- *Tsin sikaadnii* (Tree Grove People), Casamero Ruins
- *Yoo'ó dine'é* (Bead People), Chaco Canyon and surrounding area

There may be other Navajo clans that have origins at Chacoan places. The origin places of many Navajo clans are not documented in the existing literature. Numerous Navajo people living in the Eastern Agency are from the clans that originated at the places mentioned above. They are concerned about the management of Chacoan sites and should be included in the discussions related to any efforts to establish a buffer zone around Chaco Canyon.

Conclusion

The Navajo Nation has been a good steward of the cultural resources across Navajo Nation lands, including the area around Chaco Canyon. NNHHPD, as well as other Navajo Nation programs, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), the BLM and others are working cooperatively on the management and protection of cultural resources in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Farmington-Mancos-Gallup Resource Management Plan Amendment (RMPA). The RMPA is for the lands in the greater Chaco Canyon area.

Additionally, we work closely with the BLM in Farmington on all gas/oil lease sales and Applications for Permit to Drill (APD) to ensure cultural resources are inventoried and protected. This activity is coordinated with the BIA. The Navajo Nation has authority over Navajo Nation lands pursuant to the Navajo Cultural Resources Protection Act (CMY-19-88), and also through a P.L. 93-638 contract

from the BIA for archaeological services, and as a designated Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) by the NPS's Tribal Historic Preservation Program. On federal lands, the BIA (for Individual Indian Allotments) and the BLM are required to consult with the Navajo Nation on any effects of mineral extraction activities on cultural resources. The BIA and the BLM are bound by the National Historic Preservation Act (1966; as amended), to identify and manage cultural resources within their jurisdictions. Other federal laws protect cultural resources include the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA, 1979), as well as numerous other legislations that govern Chacoan sites.

It is important that any legislation that will affect Navajo land-use acknowledge and respect Navajo ceremonial and cultural traditions. I would urge Delegate Freeland to include such wording in the proposed Legislation No. 0366-19, and also to advocate for appropriate wording in H.R. 2181.

Suggested Readings

Below is a short list of printed resources that focus on Navajo cultural history about Chaco Canyon, and the 'Anaasázi in general. Technical reports such as archaeological or ethnographic reports contain much more information on local Navajo traditions and cultural history. Most of those reports are on file at the NNHHPD office in Window Rock.

Begay, Richard M.
2004 "Tsé Biyah 'Anii'áhí: Chaco Canyon and Its Place in Navajo History", in *In Search of Chaco: New Approaches to an Archaeological Enigma*, David Grant Noble, ed. Santa Fe: School of American Research Press.

Brugge, David M.
1980 *A History of the Chaco Navajos*. Reports of the Chaco Center No. 4. Albuquerque: National Park Service, Division of Chaco Research.

Kelley, Klara, and Harris Francis
2019 *A Dine History of Navajoland*. Tucson: University of Arizona Press.

Linford, Laurence D.
2000 *Navajo Places: History, Legend, Landscape*. Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press.

Matthews, Washington
1994 (1897) *Navajo Legends*. Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press.

McPherson, Robert
1993 *Sacred Land, Sacred View*. Provo, UT: Brigham Young University Press.

O'Bryan, Aileen
1993 *The Dine*. New York: Dover.

EXHIBIT
D

HUERFANO CHAPTER # 91

P.O. BOX 968 • BLOOMFIELD, NEW MEXICO 87413 • (505) 960-1400 • FAX (505) 960-3044

RESOLUTION OF HUERFANO CHAPTER
RESOLUTION # HUE-065-19

REQUESTING U.S. SENATOR MARTIN HEINRICH AND U.S. SENATOR TOM UDALL TO CONSIDER AMENDING THE PROPOSED CHACO HERITAGE PROTECTION ACT OF 2019 TO HAVE THE PROPOSED TEN (10) MILES BUFFER ZONE REDUCED TO FIVE (05) MILES; AND REQUESTING THE U.S. INTERIOR SECRETARY DAVID BERNHARDT NOT TO SUPPORT THE TEN (10) MILES BUFFER ZONE INDICATED IN THE PROPOSED CHACO CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION ACT OF 2019, BUT TO SUPPORT A FIVE (05) MILES BUFFER ZONE

WHEREAS:

1. Huerfano Chapter is a certified governmental entity of the Navajo Nation charges with the responsibility to solicit, promote, and protect the interest and the welfare of the chapter and its community pursuant to the Navajo Nation Resolution CJ20-55, December 02, 1995 and Resolution CAP 34-98, adopting the Local Governance Act (LGA); and

2. Huerfano Chapter has a population of 3000 plus residents, both registered voters and non-registered community members. The chapter is one of the largest land based chapters in Eastern Agency, Navajo Nation and has nine (09) sub-communities including Adobe, Blanco, Bisti, Carson, Gallegos, Jacquez, Hogback, Huerfano, and Otis; and

3. The proposed 2019 Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act is a Congressional Bill sponsored by U.S. Senator Tom Udall and U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich that would permanently stop new oil and gas development on federal lands within ten (10) miles of Chaco Cultural National Historic Park; and

4. Navajo Allotment Land Owners of Nageezi Chapter have raised concerns that U.S. Senator Tom Udall and U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich didn't consult with them on the proposed 2019 Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act, but the Navajo Allotment Land Owners are still willing to sit down with the two U.S. Senators to discuss the proposed Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act of 2019; and

5. Navajo Allotment Land Owners within Nageezi Chapter and Counselor Chapter are being informed that the proposed Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act of 2019 will not affect new oil and gas development on Navajo Allotment Lands and Navajo Trust Lands, but Navajo Allotment Owners know it is not economical for oil and gas companies just to have new oil and gas development on Navajo Allotment Lands which will lead oil and gas companies to cease new oil and gas development on Navajo Allotment lands; and

BEN WOODY JR.
CHAPTER PRESIDENT

IRENE L. HARVEY
CHAPTER VICE PRESIDENT

LOIS Y. WERITO
SECRETARY & TREASURER

MARK A. FREELAND
COUNCIL DELEGATE

VERONICA PABLO-TSO
LAND BOARD

JERRY CASTIANO
LAND BOARD

HUERFANO CHAPTER RESPECTFULLY REQUEST RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 24TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL TO SUPPORT NAGEEZI CHAPTER RESOLUTION NO. NC-19-070.

C-E-R-T-I-F-I-C-A-T-I-O-N

We hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and discussed at a duly call meeting of Huerfano Chapter, Navajo Nation (New Mexico), at which a quorum was present, as same was passed by votes of 14 in favor, 00 opposed, and 04 abstentions, this 08th day of September 2019.

Motion by: Pauline McCauley
Second by: Raymond Charley

Ben Woody Jr., Chapter President

Irene L. Harvey, Chapter Vice-President

Lois Y. Werito, Secretary/Treasurer

Mark Freeland, Council Delegate

THE NAVAJO NATION

JONATHAN NEZ
President
MYRON LIZER
Vice President

LAKE VALLEY CHAPTER
Mark Freeland, Council Delegate; Tony Padilla, President; Edison Tso, Vice President; Betty S. Dennison, Secretary/Treasurer; Janice Padilla, Land Board; Nancy Brown, Accounts Maintenance Specialist; CSC-Vacant

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LVC-OCT20-047

RESOLUTION OF LAKE VALLEY CHAPTER

SUPPORT REQUEST TO CONGRESSIONA LEADERS (U.S. SENATORS MARTIN HEINRICH & TOM UDALL) TO CONSIDER AMENDING THE PROPOSED CHACO CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION ACT OF 2019 TO HAVE THE PROPOSED TEN (10) MILES BUFFER ZONE REDUCED TO FIVE (5) MILES; AND REQUESTING TO THE U.S. INTERIOR SECRETARY DAVID BERNHARDT NOT TO SUPPORT THE TEN (10) MILES BUFFER ZONE INDICATED IN THE PROPOSED CHACO CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION ACT OF 2019, BUT TO SUPPORT A FIVE (5) MILES BUFFER ZONE OF OIL & GAS DEVELOPMENT ON THE NAVAJO ALLOTMENTS LAND.

WHEREAS:

1. Lake Valley Chapter is a certified Navajo Nation Chapter Government, which was created pursuant to the Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. C-J25-55 and is delegated governmental authority with respect to local matters consistent with Navajo laws, including customs, traditions, and fiscal matters; and

2. Lake Valley Chapter is empowered by the Navajo Nation Council to review all matters affecting the community to make favorable decisions in the best interest for the general health, safety and welfare of chapter membership through implementation solutions for economic development, cultural preservation, recreation, solid waste management, elderly care, quality housing, public safety; road maintenance; and

3. Lake Valley Chapter community understands that in pursuant to the Navajo Nation Code (NNC) Title 26, Local Governance Act, which allows chapters to make decisions over local matters. This authority in the long run all improve community decision-making by allowing committees to excel and flourish, enable Navajo leaders to lead toward a prosperous future, and improve the strength and sovereignty of the Navajo Nation; through adoption of this Act, chapters are compelled to govern with responsibility and accountability to the local citizens; and

4. Lake Valley Chapter community understands proposed 2019 Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act is a Congressional Bill sponsored by U.S. Senators Tom Udall and U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich that would permanentaly stop new oil and gas development on federal lands within ten (10) miles of Chaco Cultural National Historical Park; and

5. Lake Valley Chapter community understands the Navajo Allotment Land owners of Nageezi Chapter have raised concerns that U.S. Senator Tom Udall and U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich didn't consult with the land owners on the proposed 2019 Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act, but the Navajo Allotment Land owners are still willing to sit down with the two U.S. Senators to discussed proposed Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act of 2019; and

6. Lake Valley Chapter community understands that the Navajo Allotment Land Owners within Nageezi Chapter and Counselor Chapter are being told that proposed Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act of 2019 will not affect new oil and gas development on Navajo Allotment Lands and Navajo Trust Lands, but the Navajo Allotment Owner know it is not economical for oil and gas companies just to have new oil and gas development on Navajo Allotment Lands which will lead oil and gas companies to cease new oil and gas development on Navajo Allotment Lands, and

7. Lake Valley Chapter community understands that the Navajo Allotment Land Owners have met with Cal Curley, Staff to U.S. Senator Tom Udall and Jim Dumont, Staff to U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich, at Nageezi Chapter to express their concerns on proposed Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act, but the Navajo Allotment Land Owners believe their concerns are not being conveyed to U.S. Senator Tom Udall and U.S. Senator Martin Hein rich; and

8. Lake Valley Chapter community understands the Navajo Allotment Land Owners expressed their concerns that the Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act of 2019 will infringe on their royalty payments they are receiving from oil and gas development on their allotment lands. The Navajo communities, including the Navajo Reservation has always been in a very depressed economic state and such development of natural resources benefit Navajo families by improving their livelihood; and

9. Lake Valley Chapter community understands the Navajo Allotment Land Owners are concerned that self-serving special interest organizations are violating the rights of Navajo Allotment Land Owners. That such publicized demonstrations and meetings by these special interest an outside groups have over shadowed the Navajo Allotment Land Owners whom currently benefitting from oil and gas development on their allotment lands; and

10. Lake Valley Chapter community understands the Navajo Allotment Land Owners do not share opinions of environmentalists voicing their objections on natural resources developments. These over publicized objections by the environmentalists have drowned out and overshadowed Navajo Allotment Land Owners Rights; and

11. Lake Valley Chapter community understands the Navajo Allotment Land Owners are truly the impacted people of the Chaco area. These lands were patented and allotted to the Navajo people in New Mexico and handed down through many generations. These lands were given in exchange for land taken by the U.S. Government in exchange for citizenships. Therefore, as Navajo People being land owners, they have the right to lease, develop, or excavate their lands; and

12. Lake Valley Chapter community members are also Navajo Allotment Landowners near or within Chaco Canyon locations therefore, Lake Valley Chapter community adopted Resolution No. LVC-OCT20-047 on October 20, 2019 to accept & approve support request to consider amending the proposed Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act of 2019 to have the proposed ten (10) miles Buffer Zone reduced to five (5) miles Buffer Zone for oil & gas development on the Navajo Allotments Land.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Lake Valley Chapter of the Navajo Nation hereby approves & support Approving Resolution to support a request to Congressional Leaders (U.S. Seniors Martin Heinrich & Tom Udall) to consider amending the proposed Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act of 2019 to have the proposed ten (10) miles Buffer Zone reduced to five (5) miles; and requesting to the U.S. Interior Secretary David Bernhardt not to support the ten (10) miles Buffer Zone indicated in the proposed Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act of 2019, but to support a five (5) miles Buffer Zone for oil & gas development on the Navajo Allotments Land.

CERTIFICATION

WE HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Lake Valley Chapter at a duly called chapter meeting at Lake Valley (New Mexico) Navajo Nation, at which a quorum was present and that same was passed by a vote of 11 In favors; opposed; and 3 abstained on this 20th day of October 2019. Motion by: Stella Valdez; and seconded by Clarence Bayale.

Mr. Tony Padilla, Jr., President

Mr. Edison Tso, Vice President

Mrs. Betty S. Dennison, Secretary/Treasurer

Mr. Mark Freeland, Council Delegate

NAGEEZI CHAPTER
EASTERN NAVAJO AGENCY
DISTRICT 19

Jonathan Nez, Navajo Nation President | Myron Lizer, Navajo Nation Vice-President

RESOLUTION OF NAGEEZI CHAPTER
EASTERN AGENCY, DISTRICT 19

RESOLUTION # NC-19-70

REQUESTING U.S. SENATOR MARTIN HEINRICH AND U.S. SENATOR TOM UDALL TO CONSIDER AMENDING THE PROPOSED CHACO HERITAGE PROTECTION ACT OF 2019 TO HAVE THE PROPOSED TEN (10) MILES BUFFER ZONE REDUCED TO FIVE (5) MILES; AND REQUESTING THE U.S. INTERIOR SECRETARY DAVID BERNHARDT NOT TO SUPPORT THE TEN (10) MILES BUFFER ZONE INDICATED IN THE PROPOSED CHACO CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION ACT OF 2019, BUT TO SUPPORT A FIVE (5) MILES BUFFER ZONE

WHEREAS:

1. Pursuant to 26 N.N.C. §1(B), the Nageezi Chapter is delegated the governmental authority to make decisions over local matters consistent with Navajo Law, Custom, and Tradition and under 11 N.N.C., Part 1, Section 10, is delegated authority to make local decisions in the best interest and welfare of the community members; and

2. Nageezi Chapter with the population of 2500 to 3000 residents, registered and non-registered voters, is made of up of nine (09) sub-communities including and not limited to: Nageezi, Lybrook, Twin Pines, Blanco, Kimbeto, Chaco Canyon, Escavada, Betoni Wash, Kinnadiz, and Dzilth-na-o-dith-hle, being one of the largest land base chapter in the Eastern Agency of the Navajo Nation; and

3. The proposed 2019 Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act is a Congressional Bill sponsored by U.S. Senator Tom Udall and U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich that would permanently stop new oil and gas development on federal lands within ten (10) miles of Chaco Cultural National Historical Park; and

4. Navajo Allotment Land Owners of Nageezi Chapter have raised concerns that U.S. Senator Tom Udall and U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich didn't consult with them on the proposed 2019 Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act, but the Navajo Allotment Land Owners are still willing to sit down with the two U.S. Senators to discuss the proposed Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act of 2019; and

5. Navajo Allotment Land Owners within Nageezi Chapter and Counselor Chapters are being told that the proposed Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act of 2019 will not affect new oil and gas development on Navajo Allotment Lands and Navajo Trust Lands, but Navajo Allotment Owners know it is not economical for oil and gas companies just to have new oil and gas development on Navajo Allotment Lands which will lead oil and gas companies to cease new oil and gas development on Navajo Allotment Lands; and

6. Navajo Allotment Land Owners have met with Cal Curley, Staff to U.S. Senator Tom Udall and Jim Dumont, Staff to U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich at Nageezi Chapter to express their concerns on the proposed Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act, but Navajo Allotment Land Owners believe their concerns are not being conveyed to U.S. Senator Tom Udall and U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich; and

7. Navajo Allotment Land Owners expressed their concerns that the Chaco Cultural Heritage Area Protection Act of 2019 will infringe on their royalty payments they are receiving from oil and gas development on their allotment lands. Navajo communities, including the Navajo Reservation has always been in a very depressed economic state and such development of natural resources benefit Navajo families by improving their livelihood; and

8. Navajo Allotment Land Owners are concerned that self-serving special interest organizations are violating the rights of Navajo Allotment Land Owners. That such publicized demonstrations and meetings by these special interest and outside groups have over shadowed the Navajo Allotment Land Owners whom currently benefitting from oil and gas development on their allotment lands; and

9. Navajo Allotment Land Owners do not share opinions of environmentalists voicing their objections on natural resources developments. These over publicized objections by the environmentalists have drowned out and overshadowed Navajo Allotment Land Owners Rights; and

10. Navajo Allotment Land Owners are truly the impacted people of the Chaco area. These lands were patented and allotted to the Navajo People in New Mexico and handed down through many generations. These lands were given in exchange for land taken by the U.S. Government in exchange for citizenships. Therefore, as Navajo People being land owners, they have the right to lease, develop, or excavate their lands.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. NAGEEZI CHAPTER HEREBY REQUESTS U.S. SENATOR MARTIN HEINRICH AND U.S. SENATOR TOM UDALL TO CONSIDER AMENDING THE PROPOSED CHACO CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION ACT OF 2019 TO HAVE THE PROPOSED TEN (10) MILES BUFFER ZONE REDUCED TO FIVE (5) MILES; AND REQUESTING THE U.S. INTERIOR SECRETARY DAVID BERNHARDT NOT TO SUPPORT THE TEN (10) MILES BUFFER ZONE INDICATED IN THE PROPOSED CHACO HERITAGE PROTECTION ACT OF 2019, BUT TO SUPPORT A FIVE (5) MILES BUFFER ZONE; AND

2. NAGEEZI CHAPTER RESPECTFULLY REQUEST RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 24TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL TO SUPPORT NAGEEZI CHAPTER RESOLUTION NO. NC-19-070

CERTIFICATION

WE HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION #NC-19-070 was duly presented and discussed at a duly called meeting of Nageezi Chapter, Navajo Nation (New Mexico), at which a quorum was present, motioned by Delora Hesuse, seconded by Juan Betoni, was voted on with 20 in favor, 00 opposed, and 03 abstained, this 02nd day of June 2019.

Ervin Chavez, Chapter President

Jessica Platero, Secretary/Treasurer

PO BOX 100, NAGEEZI NM 87037, PH: (505) 960-7200, FX: (505) 960-7201

PUEBLO PINTADO CHAPTER

HCR-79 BOX 3026 * CUBA, NEW MEXICO 87013 * (505) 655-3221* FAX (505) 655-5410

Daniel Tsosie	Rena Murphy	Erlene Henderson	Rhea Murphy-Willeto	Alex Sandoval	Rosie Otero	Alberta Ballard
Council Delegate	President	Vice President	Secretary/Treasurer	Land board	Coordinator	Accounts Maintenance Specialist

RESOLUTION OF PUEBLO PINTADO CHAPTER
EASTERN NAVAJO AGENCY PPC-07-2019-64

REQUESTING U.S. SENATOR MARTIN HEINRICH AND U.S. SENATOR TOM UDALL TO CONSIDER AMENDING THE PROPOSED CHACO HERITAGE PROTECTION ACT OF 2019 TO HAVE THE PROPOSED TEN (10) MILES BUFFER ZONE REDUCED TO FIVE (5) MILES; AND REQUESTING THE U.S. INTERIOR SECRETARY DAVID BERNHARDT NOT TO SUPPORT THE TEN (10) MILES BUFFER ZONE INDICATED IN THE PROPOSED CHACO CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION ACT OF 2019, BUT TO SUPPORT A FIVE (5) MILES BUFFER ZONE

WHEREAS:

1. Pursuant to 26 N.N.C. §1(B), the Pueblo Pintado Chapter is delegated the governmental authority to make decisions over local matters consistent with Navajo Law, Custom, and Tradition and under 11 N.N.C., Part 1, Section 10, is delegated authority to make local decisions in the best interest and welfare of the community members; and

2. Pueblo Pintado Chapter with the population of 2500 to 3000 residents, registered and non-registered voters, is made of up of nine (09) sub-communities including and not limited to: Nageezi, Lybrook, Twin Pines, Blanco, Kimbeto, Chaco Canyon, Escavada, Betoni Wash, Kinnadiz, and Dzilth-na-o-dith-hle, being one of the largest land base chapter in the Eastern Agency of the Navajo Nation; and

3. The proposed 2019 Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act is a Congressional Bill sponsored by U.S. Senator Tom Udall and U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich that would permanently stop new oil and gas development on federal lands within ten (10) miles of Chaco Cultural National Historical Park; and

4. Navajo Allotment Land Owners of Pueblo Pintado Chapter have raised concerns that U.S. Senator Tom Udall and U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich didn't consult with them on the proposed 2019 Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act, but the Navajo Allotment Land Owners are still willing to sit down with the two U.S. Senators to discuss the proposed Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act of 2019; and

5. Navajo Allotment Land Owners within Nageezi, Pueblo Pintado, and Counselor Chapters are being told that the proposed Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act of 2019 will not affect new oil and gas development on Navajo Allotment Lands and Navajo Trust Lands, but Navajo Allotment Owners know it is not economical for oil and gas companies just to have new oil and gas development on Navajo Allotment Lands which will lead oil and gas companies to cease new oil and gas development on Navajo Allotment Lands; and

6. Navajo Allotment Land Owners have met with Cal Curley, Staff to U.S. Senator Tom Udall and Jim Dumont, Staff to U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich at Nageezi Chapter to express their concerns on the proposed Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act, but Navajo Allotment Land Owners believe their concerns are not being conveyed to U.S. Senator Tom Udall and U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich; and

7. Navajo Allotment Land Owners expressed their concerns that the Chaco Cultural Heritage Area Protection Act of 2019 will infringe on their royalty payments they are receiving from oil and gas development on their allotment lands. Navajo communities, including the Navajo Reservation has always been in a very depressed economic state and such development of natural resources benefit Navajo families by improving their livelihood; and

8. Navajo Allotment Land Owners are concerned that self-serving special interest organizations are violating the rights of Navajo Allotment Land Owners. That such publicized demonstrations and meetings by these special interest and outside groups have over shadowed the Navajo Allotment Land Owners whom currently benefitting from oil and gas development on their allotment lands; and

9. Navajo Allotment Land Owners do not share opinions of environmentalists voicing their objections on natural resources developments. These over publicized objections by the environmentalists have drowned out and overshadowed Navajo Allotment Land Owners Rights; and

10. Navajo Allotment Land Owners are truly the impacted people of the Chaco area. These lands were patented and allotted to the Navajo People in New Mexico and handed down through many generations. These lands were given in exchange for land taken by the U.S. Government in exchange for citizenships. Therefore, as Navajo People being land owners, they have the right to lease, develop, or excavate their lands.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. PUEBLO PINTADO CHAPTER HEREBY REQUESTS U.S. SENATOR MARTIN HEINRICH AND U.S. SENATOR TOM UDALL TO CONSIDER AMENDING THE PROPOSED CHACO CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION ACT OF 2019 TO HAVE THE PROPOSED TEN (10) MILES BUFFER ZONE REDUCED TO FIVE (5) MILES; AND REQUESTING THE U.S. INTERIOR SECRETARY DAVID BERNHARDT NOT TO SUPPORT THE TEN (10) MILES BUFFER ZONE INDICATED IN THE PROPOSED CHACO HERITAGE PROTECTION ACT OF 2019, BUT TO SUPPORT A FIVE (5) MILES BUFFER ZONE; AND

2. PUEBLO PINTADO CHAPTER RESPECTFULLY REQUEST RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 24TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL TO SUPPORT NAGEEZI CHAPTER RESOLUTION NO. NC-19-070

CERTIFICATION

WE HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION PPC-07-2019-64 was duly presented and discussed at a duly called meeting of Pueblo Pintado Chapter, Navajo Nation (New Mexico), at which a quorum was present, motioned by Janice Arthur, seconded by Darrell Cadman, was voted on with 14 in favor, 00 opposed, and 02 abstained, this 15th day of July 2019.

Rena Murphy, Chapter President

Erlene Henderson, Chapter Vice-President

Rhea Murphy-Willeto, Secretary/Treasurer

White Rock Local Government
P.O. Box 660
Crownpoint, New Mexico 87313
Phone: (505) 786-2444 Fax: (505) 786-2447
E-mail: whiterock@navajochapters.org

Jonathan Nez, President

Myron Lizer, Vice President

WRLG-020-001

RESOLUTION OF THE WHITE ROCK LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Supporting and Requesting U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich and U.S. Senator Tom Udall to Consider Amending the Proposed Chaco Heritage Protection Act of 2019 to Have the Proposed Ten (10) Miles Buffer Zone Reduced to Five (5) Miles; and Requesting the U. S. Interior Secretary David Bernhardt not to Support the Ten (10) Miles Buffer Zone Indicated in the Proposed Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act of 2019, but to Support a Five (5) Miles Buffer Zone

WHEREAS:

1. White Rock Local Government is a duly recognized and Governance Certified Chapter through Local Governance Certification and of the Five Management System Policies and Procedures, pursuant to the Local Governance, Title 26, N.N.C. Section 102 (B); and
2. White Rock Local Government is vested with the authority and responsibility to promote, to receive, act upon and protect the interest of the general welfare of it's constituents and interact with other entities of the Navajo Nation and other local agencies for appropriate actions; and
3. The proposed 2019 Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act is a Congressional Bill sponsored by U.S. Senator Tom Udall and U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich that would permanently stop new oil and gas development on federal lands within ten (10) miles of Chaco Cultural National Historical Park; and
4. Navajo Allotment Land Owners of Pueblo Pintado Community have raised concerns that U.S. Senator Tom Udall and U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich didn't consult with them on the Proposed 2019 Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act, but the Navajo Allotment Land Owners are still willing to sit down with the two U.S. Senators to discuss the proposed Chaco Cultural heritage Protection Act of 2019; and
5. Navajo Allotment Land Owners within Nageezi, Pueblo Pintado and Counselor Chapters are being told that the proposed Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act of 2019 will not affect new oil and gas development on Navajo Allotment Lands and Navajo Trust Lands but Navajo Allotment Owners know it is no economical for oil and gas companies just to have new oil and gas development on Navajo Allotment Lands which will lead oil and gas companies to cease new oil and gas development on Navajo Allotment Lands; and
6. Navajo Allotment Land Owners have met with Cal Curley, Staff to U.S. Senator Tom Udall and Jim Dumont, Staff to U.S. Senator martin Heinrich as Nageezi Chapter to express their concerns on the proposed Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act, but Navajo Allotment Land Owners believe their concerns are not being conveyed to U.S. Senator Tom Udall and U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich; and
7. Navajo Allotment Land Owners expressed their concerns that the Chaco Cultural Heritage Area Protection Act of 2019 will infringe on their royalty payments they are receiving from oil and gas development on their allotment lands. Navajo communities, including the Navajo Reservation has always been in a very depressed economic state and such development of natural resource benefit Navajo families by improving their livelihood; and

Norman Henry, Council President
Vacant, Council Vice-President
Corraine Lee, Council Secretary/Treasurer

Tabitha Harrison, Chapter Manager
Tina Pablo, Administrative Assistant
Irwin Jim, Land Board

Mark A. Freeland, Council Delegate

8. Navajo Allotment Land Owners are concerned that self-serving special interest organizations are violating the rights of Navajo Allotment Land Owners. That such publicized demonstrations and meetings by these special interest and outside groups have overshadowed the Navajo Allotment Land Owners whom currently benefitting from oil and gas development on their allotment lands; and
9. Navajo Allotment Land Owners do not share opinions of environmentalists voicing their objections on natural resources developments. These over publicized objections by the environmentalists have drowned out and overshadowed Navajo Allotment Land Owners Rights; and
10. Navajo Allotment Land Owners are truly the impacted people of the Chaco area. These lands were patented and allotted to the Navajo People in New Mexico and handed down through many generations. These lands were given in exchange for land taken by the U.S. Government in exchange for citizenship. Therefore, as Navajo People being land owners, they have the right to lease, develop or excavate their lands.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. White Rock Local Government supports and requests U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich and U.S. Senator Tom Udall to consider amending the proposed Chaco Cultural heritage Protection Act of 2019 to have the proposed ten (10) miles buffer zone reduced to five (5) miles; and requesting the U.S. Interior Secretary David Bernhardt not to support the ten (10) miles buffer zone as indicated in the proposed Chaco Heritage Protection Act of 2019, but to support five (5) miles buffer zone.
2. White Rock Local Government respectfully requests the Resources and Development Committee of the 24th Navajo Nation Council to support Pueblo Pintado Chapter Resolution #PPC-07-2019-64.

CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered at a duly called meeting at White Rock Chapter, Navajo Nation, New Mexico at which a quorum was present, motion by Shawn Jim, second by Etta Nelson, and that same was passed by a vote of 14 in favor, 2 opposed, and 4 abstained on this 21st day of October 2019.

Norman Henry, Council President

Council Vice President Pro-Temp

Corraine Lee, Council Secretary/Treasurer

Add to Exhibit D

RESOLUTION
OF THE
EASTERN NAVAJO AGENCY COUNCIL
THE NAVAJO NATION

No. ENAC-13-2019-011

REQUESTING U.S. SENATOR MARTIN HEINRICH AND U.S. SENATOR TOM UDALL TO CONSIDER AMENDING THE PROPOSED CHACO HERITAGE PROTECTION ACT OF 2019 TO HAVE THE PROPOSED TEN (10) MILES BUFFER ZONE REDUCED TO FIVE (5) MILES; AND REQUESTING THE U.S. INTERIOR SECRETARY DAVID BERNHARDT NOT TO SUPPORT THE TEN (10) MILE BUFFER ZONE INDICATED IN THE PROPOSED CHACO CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION ACT OF 2019, BUT TO SUPPORT A FIVE (5) MILE BUFFER ZONE

WHEREAS:

1. The Eastern Navajo Agency Council is established under the Legislative Branch of the Navajo Nation and certified by Resolution IGRS-251-01; and
2. Pursuant to 26 N.N.C. Section 103 (D) (4), the Eastern Navajo Agency Council, a consortium of elected Chapter Officials representing thirty-one (31) certified Navajo Nation Chapters, agree to address and undertake common goals and interests for the benefit of the Eastern Navajo Agency Chapters; and
3. Pursuant 2 N.N.C SECTION: 4028; the Eastern Navajo Agency Council is vested with government authority to review all matters affecting the community to make most appropriate recommendations when necessary to the Navajo Nation, County, State, Federal and other local agencies; and
4. The proposed 2019 Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act is a Congressional Bill sponsored by U.S. Senator Tom Udall and U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich that would permanently stop new oil and gas development on federal lands within ten (10) miles of Chaco Cultural National Historical Park; and
5. Navajo Allotment Landowners within Nageezi, Pueblo Pintado, and Counselor Chapters have raised concerns that U.S. Senator Tom Udall and U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich didn't consult with them on the proposed 2019 Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act , but the Navajo Allotment Landowners are still willing to sit down with the two U.S. Senators to discuss the proposed Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act of 2019; and
6. Navajo Allotment Landowners within Nageezi, Pueblo Pintado, and Counselor Chapters are being told that the proposed Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act of 2019 will not affect new oil and gas development on Navajo Allotment Lands and Navajo Trust Lands, but Navajo Allotment Owners know it is not economical for oil and gas companies just to have new oil and gas development on Navajo Allotment Lands which will lead oil and gas companies to cease new oil and gas development on Navajo Allotment Lands; and
7. Navajo Allotment Landowners have met with Cal Curley, Staff Assistant to U.S. Senator Tom Udall and Jim Dumont, Staff Assistant to U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich at Nageezi Chapter to express their concerns on the proposed Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act, but Navajo Allotment Landowners believe their concerns are not being conveyed to U.S. Senator Tom Udall and U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich; and
8. Navajo Allotment Landowners expressed their concerns that the Chaco Cultural Heritage Area Protection Act of 2019 will infringe on their royalty payments they are receiving from oil and gas development on their allotment lands. Navajo communities, including the Navajo Reservation has always been in a very depressed economic state and such development of natural resources benefit Navajo families by improving their livelihood; and
9. Navajo Allotment Landowners are concerned that self-serving special interest organizations are violating the rights of Navajo Allotment Landowners. That such publicized demonstrations and meetings by these special interest and outside groups have overshadowed the Navajo Allotment Landowners whom currently benefitting from oil and gas development on their allotment lands; and
10. Navajo Allotment Landowners do not share opinions of environmentalists voicing their objections on natural resources developments. These over publicized objections by the environmentalists have drowned out and overshadowed Navajo Allotment Landowner Rights; and
11. Navajo Allotment Landowners are truly the impacted people of the Chaco area. These lands were patented and allotted to the Navajo People in New Mexico and handed down through many generations. These lands were given in exchange for land taken by the U.S. Government in exchange for citizenships. Therefore, as Navajo People being landowners, they have the right to lease, develop, or excavate their lands.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Eastern Navajo Agency Council hereby requests U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich and U.S. Senator Tom Udall to consider amending the proposed Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act of 2019 to have the proposed ten (10) mile buffer zone reduced to five (5) miles; and requesting the U.S. Interior Secretary David Bernhardt not to support the ten (10) mile buffer zone indicated in the proposed Chaco Heritage Protection Act of 2019; but to support a five (5) mile buffer zone.
2. FURTHER IT BE RESOLVED, the Eastern Navajo Agency Council requests the Resources and Development Committee of the 24th Navajo Nation Council to support this resolution.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was approved by the Eastern Navajo Agency Council at a duly called meeting at Alamo, Navajo Nation, New Mexico, at which a quorum was present and the same was passed by a vote of 23 in favor, 10 opposed, 22 abstained, this 7th day of December 2019.

Moved by: Milton Davidson, Manuelito Chapter
Second: Cecil Lewis, Jr., Beclabito/Prewitt Chapter

ATTEST:

Amber Kanazbah, Vice President

Johnny Johnson, President



BACKGROUND

The Department of the Interior established the Federal Indian Minerals Office (FIMO) to provide and improve Indian Trust services to individual Indian beneficiaries in the management of their oil and gas mineral resources. The FIMO office has received multiple concerns and complaints regarding the proposed ten-mile leasing buffer zone around Chaco Culture National Historical Park (Chaco).

FIMO currently plans to move forward with a proposed lease sale for Navajo Indian allotments. Pending legislation (H.R. 2181) could indirectly impact the lease sale for the Navajo Indian Allottees.

Legislative (H.R. 2181) is currently pending, as currently written, would prevent certain federal minerals from being leased in the Chaco area. Section 3 of the pending legislation excludes Indian lands from this leasing prohibition. However, based on the geology and land status of the Navajo Eastern Agency, FIMO believes there potentially could be an indirect impact on any lease sales for Navajo Indian allotments. For example, the Mancos Shale reservoir lies south of Counselor, Huerfano and Nageezi Chapters and north of Chaco Park. To maximize full extraction of the product, a horizontal lateral crossing 3-4 miles subsurface may be required. Due to the cross jurisdictional land status in Navajo Eastern Agency, a proposed horizontal lateral could need to cross federal land. Thus, a lease sale of allotment minerals might correlate with leasing federal minerals in a reservoir area. An inability to lease adjacent federal minerals might impede a company from maximizing production from certain wells or laterals on allotment minerals. FIMO will continue to act pursuant to applicable federal statutes and regulations in evaluating any lease offers and approving any leases. *See* 25 U.S.C. §§ 396, 396d; 25 U.S.C. § 2102; 25 C.F.R. part 225.

DATA

The following information was pulled and analyzed to provide a better understanding of how this pending legislation could indirectly impact the development of Oil & Gas in the Eastern Navajo Agency. Specifically, FIMO was asked to provide the following information:

1. **How many oil and gas leases are potentially impacted? How much money is generated from these leases? When were they last leased? What is the % of Tribal ownership, if any, in the individual allotments in the park and buffer zone?**

<u>10 Mile Buffer – Leased Allotments</u>

- There are currently 53 allotments that are leased within a 10 mile buffer of Chaco
- The 53 leased allotments generates an average of $6.2 million a year in royalties for the allottees.
- There are approximately 5,462 allottees that received the amount stated above based on their individual allotment percentage.
- The leased allotment covers approximately 8,479.49 acres of allotted lands

- The Navajo Nation has percentage interest in 9 leased allotments.

10 Mile Buffer – Unleased Allotments

- There are currently 418 allotments that are unleased within a 10 mile buffer of Chaco
- There are approximately 16,615 allottees associated with these allotments.
- The unleased allotment covers approximately 66,575.82 acres of allotted lands
- The Navajo Nation has percentage interest in 288 unleased allotments.
    a. 6 allotments will be transferring from Navajo Indian Allotted to Navajo Nation Tribal Trust
    b. NN has 50 % interest in 86 allotments.
    c. NN has 25%-49% interest in 133 allotments.
    d. NN has 1%-24% interest in 63 allotments.

2. What would a 5 mile buffer zone look like?

5 Mile Buffer – Unleased Allotments

- There are currently 51 allotments that are unleased within a 5 mile buffer of Chaco
- There are approximately 2,111 allottees associated with these allotments.
- The unleased allotment covers approximately 8,157.47 acres of allotted lands
- The Navajo Nation has percentage interest in 38 unleased allotments.
    a. NN has 50 % interest in 4 allotments.
    b. NN has 25%-49% interest in 18 allotments.
    c. NN has 1%-24% interest in 16 allotments.

- The Navajo Nation has percentage interest in 9 leased allotments.

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    a. 6 allotments will be transferring from Navajo Indian Allotted to Navajo Nation Tribal Trust
    b. NN has 50 % interest in 86 allotments.
    c. NN has 25%-49% interest in 133 allotments.
    d. NN has 1%-24% interest in 63 allotments.

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NAVAJO NATION

420

1/23/2020

Naa'bik'iyati Committee Meeting

02:28:49 PM

Amd# to Amd#	Legislation 0366-19: Opposing	PASSED
MOT James, V	H.R. 2181 and S 1079, "The Chaco	
SEC Begay, E	Heritage Area Protection Act of	
	2019" Until Such Time as the...	

Yeas : 18 **Nays : 1** **Excused : 2** **Not Voting : 2**

Yea : 18

Begay, E	Freeland, M	Smith	Tso, O
Begay, K	Halona, P	Stewart, W	Walker, T
Begay, P	Henio, J	Tso, C	Yazzie
Charles-Newton	James, V	Tso, E	Yellowhair
Daniels	Nez, R		

Nay : 1

Crotty

Excused : 2

Wauneka, E	Tso, D

Not Voting : 2

Slater, C	Brown

Presiding Speaker: Damon

EXHIBIT tabbies 2

DR. BUU NYGREN PRESIDENT
RICHELLE MONTOYA VICE PRESIDENT
The Navajo Nation | Yídeesk¢ądí Nitsáhákees

George Tolth, Council Delegate | Erlene Henderson, President | Donald Chee, Vice President | Cheryl Chavez, Secretary/Treasurer | Alex Sandoval, Land Board | Janice Arthur, Coordinator | Alberta Ballard, AMS

RESOLUTION OF
PUEBLO PINTADO CHAPTER
PPC-02-2023- 022

PUEBLO PINTADO CHAPTER SUPPORTS AND APPROVE THE RESCINDING THE POSITION OF A FIVE (5) MILE BUFFER ZONE AROUND CHACO CANYON PARK TO A ZERO (0) NO BUFFER ZONE AROUND CHACO CANYON PARK AS IT WAS INDICATED IN THE PROPOSED CHACO HERTIAGE PROTECTION ACT OF 2019 BY U.S. INTERIOR SECRETARIES DEB HAALAND.

WHEREAS:

1. Pursuant to 26 N.N.C. Section 3(A) the Pueblo Pintado Chapter is a duly recognized certified Chapter of the Navajo Nation Government as stated at 11 N.N.C., Part 1 Section 10; and
2. Pursuant to 26 N.N.C. Section 1(B) the Pueblo Pintado Chapter is vested with the authority to review all matters affecting the community and make appropriate corrections when necessary, and make a recommendation to the Navajo Nation and other local agencies for appropriate actions; and
3. Pueblo Pintado Chapter has been battling the Proposed Chaco Heritage Protection Act of 2019 by U.S. Interior Secretary Deb Haaland and Assistant Secretary David Bernhardt because it will have a definite negative impact on Navajo allotment owners living in this northwest region of State of New Mexico.
4. Pueblo Pintado Chapter and the community has always supported the development of oil and gas on their lands because it provides income for Navajo families so they can support their families and pay for the education of their children.
5. Pueblo Pintado Chapter did attempt to a concession of a five (5) mile buffer zone as an attempt to negotiate a resolution but U.S. Department of interior and Congressional delegation of New Mexico forges ahead without any change of heart in their attempts to place a buffer zone in and around the Chaco National Park.
6. Pueblo Pintado Chapter was further notified that, in addition to a Chaco buffer zone another attempts to withdraw approximately 352,000 acres of public land was being proposed to be withdrawn by U.S Department of Interior. These efforts of public land withdrawal has been expedited by Interior Department via Bureau of Land Management offices in Farmington and Albuquerque, during a COVID 19 pandemic period, when Navajo land users were not allowed to meet face to face in so-called a number of public hearings.
7. Navajo people have been land users for Checkerboard land region in northwest New Mexico since at least 1868 when the Navajo and U.S. Government Treaty was signed. Even prior to 1868, Navajo people were forced off this region on The Long Walk to Fort Sumner imprisonment camp. The Navajo people returned home to this region after a treaty was reached.
8. Navajo people has traditional respected the Chaco Canyon National Park ruins located in the canyons, left behind by the pueblos, who lived on this location and have moved on. Historically Navajo people have transcended down from Alaska, Canada and northwest United States and have left markings and ruins in those regions, but Navajos do not force any buffer zones in those regions, in the midst of tribes now occupying those locations.

9. Navajo people living in the in the Checkerboard region strongly realizes that there are no buffer zones being established around any national parks in United States and questions the reason and goals of Secretary of Interior Deb Haaland. A conflict of interest obvious exists of Interior Secretary Deb Haaland, when she started this dispute via an attempt of a Congressional Bill when she was a Congresswoman and a member of the pueblo tribe

10. Pueblo Pintado Chapter takes the position that the currently boundary fence line safeguarding the Chaco Canyon is sufficient and has been in place for at least 120 years, even though Navajo people were forced out of these canyons. Furthermore, that are sufficient laws already on the Federal Oil and Gas Regulations to protect any findings of bones and potteries when found or uncovered.

11. Chaco Canyon National Park even fenced in six (6) Navajo Allotment lands as part of the existing Chaco Canyon National Park boundary. Navajo Allotment owners of these six (6) have never been compensated for use of these allotments, by the Park Service as the National Park continue to collect revenues today.

12. Navajo people truly appreciate the positions of the former 24th Navajo Nation Council, Navajo Nation Resource and Development Committee and Former Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez in their support of No Buffer zone and adamantly objects to the withdrawal of 352,000 acres public lands in the checkerboard region of northwest New Mexico, A letter of these objections was made via Navajo Council resolutions and a letter by former Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez to Joe Biden, President of United States.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1. Pueblo Pintado Chapter hereby RESCINDS the position of a five (5) buffer zone TO a zero (0) buffer zone, no buffer zone around the Chaco Canyon National Park, as it WAS indicated in the Proposed Chaco Heritage Protection Act of 2019 by U.S. Interior Secretary Deb Haaland.

CERTIFICATION

WE HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION was duly presented and discussed at duly called meeting of Pueblo Pintado, Navajo Nation, (New Mexico), at which a quorum was present, motioned by Annie Etcitty, seconded by Cecilia Chee, was voted on with 10 in favor, 0 opposed and 1 abstained, this 13th day of March 2023.

Erlene Henderson, Chapter President
Pueblo Pintado Chapter

Donald Chee, Chapter Vice President
Pueblo Pintado Chapter

Cheryl Chavez, Chapter Secretary
Pueblo Pintado Chapter

EXHIBIT
tabbies 3

THE NAVAJO NATION
JONATHAN NEZ, PRESIDENT
MYRON LIZER, VICE PRESIDENT
DANIEL TSO, COUNCIL DELEGATE

WHITEHORSE LAK

Artlee Chavez – Chapter President
Derrick Tso Yazzie – Chapter Vice President
Frannie George – Chapter Secretary/Treasurer

Clyde Yazzie-Land Board
VACANT – Community Services Coordinator
VACANT – Accounts Maintenance Specialist

HCR 79 Box 4069 Cuba, New Mexico 87013 (505) 655-5430 Fax: (505) 655-5430/5431** whitehorselake@navajochapters.org

WHLC 2-22-033 Whitehorse Lake Chapter is in opposition to the 10-mile buffer zone around the Chaco Culture National Historical Park per the request of the All-Pueblo Council of Governors and as supported by Secretary Dab Holland. This buffer zone will have a negative economic impact on Navajos who own allotted lands within the buffer one which will seriously affect royalty payments currently received from oil and gas development on their lands.

WHEREAS:

1. Pursuant to 26 N.N.C. Section 3 (A) Whitehorse Lake Chapter is a duly recognized certified chapter of the Navajo Nation Government as listed at 11 N.N.C. part 1, section 10; AND
2. Pursuant to 26 N.N.C. section 1 (B) is vested with the authority to review all matters affecting the community and to make appropriate corrections when necessary and make recommendations to the Navajo Nation and other local agencies for appropriate action; AND
3. The Whitehorse Lake Chapter is a duly certified Local Government entity of the Navajo Nation with the responsibility to promote and protect the interest and welfare of its community people pursuant to Title 11, section 4001 (a) of the Navajo Tribal Code; AND
4. Whitehorse Lake Chapter has been informed of efforts by the All-Indian Pueblo Council and the Department of Interior to impose a buffer zone surrounding the Chaco Culture National Historical Park without the input of the Navajo people; AND
5. Navajo people who own allotted lands in the area affected by the proposed buffer zone have not been allowed to voice their objection to this devastating action; AND
6. Whitehorse Lake Chapter has been informed that the Navajo Nation President has written objection to this action by the Department of Interior; AND
7. Numerous Navajos who have owned for many years allotments in the affected area will be overtly impacted negatively in their dependence on income realized from royalties in the area proposed for the buffer zone; AND
8. Navajos have been dealing with overbearing poverty for too years and this action will only make the poverty situation greater and more devastating for our children, elderly and disabled.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Whitehorse Lake Chapter strongly opposes the 10-mile buffer zone around the Chaco Culture National Historical Park action being contemplated by the All Indian Pueblo Council and supported by the Department of Interior Secretary Deb Holland as such devastating action will overtly negatively impact the income realized by Navajo allottees in the proposed buffer zone.

CERTIFICATION

We certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by Whitehorse Lake Chapter at a duly called meeting in Whitehorse Lake, Navajo Nation at which a quorum of Chapter members was present and the same was passed by a vote of 5 in favor 0 opposed and 1 abstained this 15th day of March, 2022.

Motion: Martha Charley

Second: Clyde Yazzie

Art Lee Chavez, President

Derrick Tso, Vice President

Fran George, Secretary/Treasure

Daniel Tso, Council

EXHIBIT 4

tabbies'

The Navajo Nation | Yideeskąądi Nitsáhákees

LAKE VALLEY CHAPTER
Danny Simpson, Council Delegate | Tony Padilla, President | Edison Tso, Vice President | Betty S. Dennison, Secretary/Treasurer
Janice Padilla, Land Board | Lucinda Begay, Community Service Coordinator | Accounts Maintenance Specialist – Vacant

LVC-FEB12-029 **RESOLUTION OF LAKE VALLEY CHAPTER**

RESCIND RESOLUTION #LVC-OCT20-047 (SUPPORT REQUEST TO CONSIDER AMENDING THE PROPOSED CHACO CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION ACT OF 2019 TO HAVE THE PROPOSED 10-MILES BUFFER ZONE "REDUCED" TO 5-MILES BUFFER ZONE); BUT FURTHER REQUEST TO STRONGLY SUPPORT "NO BUFFER ZONE" THAT WILL AFFECT LAKE VALLEY COMMUNITY AS WELL AS THE NAVAJO ALLOTMENT LANDOWNERS INTERRUPTING THEIR FUTURE LAND STATUS RELATING TO BUFFER ZONES PLANNING.

WHEREAS:

1. Lake Valley Chapter is a certified Navajo Nation Chapter Government, which was created pursuant to the Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. C-J25-55, is delegated governmental authority with respect to local matters consistent with Navajo laws, including customs, traditions, and fiscal matters; and

2. Lake Valley Chapter is empowered by the Navajo Nation Council to review all matters affecting the community to make favorable decisions in the best interest for the general health, safety and welfare of chapter membership through implementation solutions for economic development, cultural preservation, recreation, solid waste management, elderly care, quality housing, public safety; road maintenance; educational support for community students; and

3. Lake Valley Chapter communities understand that in pursuant to the Navajo Nation Code (NNC) Title 26, Local Governance Act, which allows chapters to make decisions over local matters. This authority in the long run all improve community decision-making by allowing committees to excel and flourish, enable Navajo leaders to lead toward a prosperous future, and improve the strength and sovereignty of the Navajo Nation; through adoption of this Act, chapters are compelled to govern with responsibility and accountability to the local citizens; and

4. Lake Valley Chapter community met on January 8, 2023 Planning Meeting to discuss and plan upcoming business items to be placed on the agenda. In previous support by the Eastern Navajo Council, it was recommended all Chapters to go with 5-mile Buffer Zone; not 10-miles. For this reason. Lake Valley Chapter supported the five (5)-mile Buffer Zone without realizing that it will affect the chapter community people residing within or near the area of identified buffer zone. Not all Eastern Navajo Chapters were in favor. It was report that the Secretary of the Interior Debra Haaland visited Chaco Canyon and went back to Washington, DC to favor/changed to 10-mile Buffer Zone initiative step in support of the Pueblo Indian Tribe surrounding the Chaco area. This is conflict of interest because Secretary Debra Haaland is a Laguna Pueblo Indian within that region. Nineteen (19) Tribes are in favor. The Navajo Nation President and Vice President needs to get involved; maybe have another Town Hall meeting having majority of community people overturn it being together on one page. For this reason, Lake Valley established another resolution to overturn their previous approval of 5-miles Buffer Zone and go with 'NO BUFFER ZONE' that will affect Lake Valley community people, especially the Navajo Allotment Landowners that will interrupt their future land status; and

5. Lake Valley Chapter community adopted Resolution No. LVC-FEB12-029 presented on February 12, 2023 to support strongly rescind 5-miles Buffer Zone initiative planning which is in the best interest of the community people of Lake Valley Chapter.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Lake Valley Chapter of the Navajo Nation hereby approves to "RESCIND" Resolution #LVC-OCT20-047 (Support Request to Consider Amending the Proposed Chaco Cultural Heritage Protection Act of 2019 to have the Proposed 10-miles Buffer Zone reduced to 5-miles Buffer Zone); but further request to STRONGLY SUPPORT "NO BUFFER ZONE' THAT WILL AFFECT LAKE VALLEY COMMUNITY AS WELL AS THE NAVAJO ALLOTMENT LANDOWNERS INTERRUPTING THEIR FUTURE LAND STATUS RELATING TO BUFFER ZONES PLANNING.

CERTIFICATION

WE HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Lake Valley Chapter at a duly called chapter meeting at Lake Valley (New Mexico) Navajo Nation, at which a quorum was present and that same was passed by a vote of seven (7) in favors, zero (0) opposed and four (4) abstained on this 12th day of February 2023. Motion by GLENN PABLO; and second by SHERNESTINE DICK.

Mr. Tony Padilla Jr., Chapter President

Mr. Edison Tso, Chapter Vice President

Mrs. Betty Dennison, Chapter Secretary / Treasurer

Mr. Danny Simpson, Council Delegate

EXHIBIT
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NAGEEZI CHAPTER
Eastern Agency

Buu Nygren, Navajo Nation President — Richelle Montoya, Navajo Nation Vice President

RESOLUTION OF NAGEEZI CHAPTER

EASTERN AGENCY, DISTRICT 19

RESOLUTION # NC 23-032

RESCINDING THE POSITION OF A FIVE (5) MILE BUFFER ZONE AROUND CHACO CANYON PARK TO A ZERO (0) NO BUFFER ZONE AROUND CHACO CANYON PARK AS IT WAS INDICATED IN THE PROPOSED CHACO HERTIAGE PROTECTION ACT OF 2019 BY U.S. INTERIOR SECRETARIES DEB HAALAND AND DAVID BERNHARDT AND NOW SUPPORTED BY SENATOR BEN RAY LUJAN AND CONGRESSWOMAN TERESA LEGER FERNANDEZ BY PROPOSED CONGRESSIONAL BILLS.

WHEREAS:

Pursuant to 26 N.N.C. 1(B), the Nageezi Chapter is delegated to the governmental authority to make decision over local matters consistent with Navajo Law, Custom and Tradition and under 11 N.N.C. Part 10 also delegated authority to make local decisions in the best interest and welfare of the community members; and,

Nageezi Chapter with the population of 2500 to 3000 residents, registered and non-registered, is made up of (09) sub-communities including and not limited to Nageezi, Lybrook, Twin Pines, Blanco, Kimbeto, Chaco Canyon, Escavada, Betoni Wash, Kinnadiz and Dzilth-na-o-dith-hle, being one of the largest land based Navajo Chapter in Eastern Navajo Agency of the Navajo Nation. There are approximately 30,000 Navajo Allotment owners in Checkerboard, northwest New Mexico; and,

Nageezi Chapter has been battling the Proposed Chaco Heritage Protection Act of 2019 by U.S. Interior Secretary Deb Haaland and Assistant Secretary David Bernhardt because it will have a definite negative impact on Navajo allotment owners living in this northwest region of State of New Mexico.

Nageezi Chapter and the community has always supported the development of oil and gas on their lands because it provide income for Navajo families so they can support their families and pay for the education of their children.

Nageezi Chapter did attempt to a concession of a five (5) mile buffer zone as an attempts to negotiate a resolution but U.S. Department of interior and Congressional delegation of New Mexico forges ahead without any change of heart in their attempts to place a buffer zone in and around the Chaco National park.

Nageezi Chapter was further notified that, in addition to the a Chaco buffer zone another attempt to withdraw approximately 352,000 acres of public land was being proposed to be withdrawn by U.S Department of Interior. This efforts of Public land withdrawal has been expedited by Interior Department via Bureau of Land Management offices in Farmington and Albuquerque, during a COVID 19 pandemic period, when Navajo land users were not allowed to meet face to face in so-called a numbers of Public hearings.

Navajo people have been land users for Checkerboard land region in northwest New Mexico since at least 1868 when the Navajo and U.S. Government Treaty was signed. Even prior to 1868, Navajo people were forced off this region on The Long Walk to Fort Sumner imprisonment camp. The Navajo people returned home to this region after a treaty was reached.

Navajo people has traditional respected the Chaco Canyon National Park ruins located in the canyons, left behind by the pueblos, who lived on this location and have moved on. Historically Navajo people have transcended down from Alaska, Canada and northwest United States and have left markings and ruins in those regions but Navajos do not force any buffer zones in those regions, in the midst of tribes now occupying those locations.

Navajo people living in the in the Checkerboard region strongly realizes that there are no buffer zones being established around any national parks in United States and questions the reason and goals of Secretary of Interior Deb Haaland. A conflict of interest obvious exists of Interior Secretary Deb Haaland, when she started this dispute via a attempts of a Congressional Bill when she was a Congresswoman and a member of the pueblo tribe.

Nageezi Chapter takes the position that the currently boundary fence line safeguarding the Chaco Canyon is sufficient and has been in place for at least 120 years, even though Navajo people were forced out of these canyons. Furthermore that are sufficient laws already on the Federal Oil and Gas Regulations to protect any findings of bones and potteries when found or uncovered.

Chaco Canyon National Park even fenced in six (6) Navajo Allotment lands as part of the existing Chaco Canyon National park boundary. Navajo Allotment owners of these six (6) have never been compensated for use of these allotments, by the Park Service as the National park continue to collect revenues today.

Navajo people truly appreciate the positions of the former 24th Navajo Nation Council, Navajo Nation Resource and Development Committee and Former Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez in their support of No Buffer zone and adamantly objects to the withdrawal of 352,000 acres public lands in the checkerboard region of northwest New Mexico. A letter of these

objections were made via Navajo Council resolutions and a letter by former Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez to Joe Biden, President of United States.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Nageezi Chapter hereby RESCINDS the position of a five (5) buffer zone TO a zero (0) buffer zone, no buffer zone around the Chaco Canyon National Park, as it WAS indicated in the Proposed Chaco Heritage Protection Act of 2019 by U.S. Interior Secretary Deb Haaland and David Bernhardt and now supported by Senator Ben Ray Lujan and Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernandez by proposed Congressional Bills.

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

WE HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION NC 23-032 was duly presented and discussed at duly called meeting of Nageezi Chapter, Navajo Nation, (New Mexico), at which a quorum was present, motioned by Johnny Russell, seconded by Wallace Castillo , was voted on with 14 in favor, 00 opposed and 01 abstained, this 06th day of February, 2023

ATTEST: NC 23-032

Ervin Chavez, Chapter President

Rory Jaques, Chapter Vice President or

Jessica Platero Chapter Secretary

#___

25th Navajo Nation Council
Naabik'iyati' Committee Meeting

Date: April 27, 2023

Legislation 0076-23: Rescinding Resolution NABIJA-05-20.....

M: N.Begay **S: B.Jesus**

ALL DELEGATES:

	Yea	Nay
Steven R. Arviso	1	
Lomardo Aseret	1	
Helena Nez Begay	1	
Norman M. Begay	1	
Shawna Ann Claw	1	
Eugenia Charles-Newton	Exc	
Amber Kanazbah Crotty		NV
Crystalyne Curley	CNV	CNV
Herman M. Daniels, Jr.	1	
Seth Damon	Exc	
Vince R. James	1	
Brenda Jesus	1	
Casey Allen Johnson	Exc	
Andy Nez	1	
Rickie Nez	1	
Nathan Notah	1	
Shaandiin Parrish	1	
Germaine Simonson		NV
Danny Simpson	1	
Carl Slater	Exc	
George Tolth	1	
Otto Tso	Exc	
Curtis Yanito	1	
Cherilyn Yazzie		1
GRAND TOTAL	15	1

BY COMMITTEE:

	Yea	Nay	TOTAL
BFC:			
PARRISH, Shaandiin			
SLATER, Carl			
ASERET, Lomardo			
BEGAY, Norman M.			
CROTTY, Amber Kanazbah			
DAMON, Seth			
HEHSC:			
JAMES, Vince			
SIMONSON, Germaine			
BEGAY, Helena Nez			
NEZ, Dr. Andy			
TOLTH, George			
YANITO, Curtis			
LOC:			
CHARLES-NEWTON, Eugenia			
YAZZIE, Cherilyn			
ARVISO, Steven R.			
DANIELS, Herman M.			
NOTAH, Nathan			
RDC:			
JESUS, Brenda			
JOHNSON, Casey Allen			
CLAW, Shawna Ann			
NEZ, Rickie			
SIMPSON, Danny			
TSO, Otto			
CHAIRMAN:			
CURLEY, Crystalyne			
(Votes only in a tie)			
GRAND TOTAL			

CERTIFICATION:

Honorable Crystalyne Curley

4/27/23
Date