



HAVASUPAI TRIBAL COUNCIL

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**HAVASUPAI TRIBE
HAVASUPAI TRIBAL COUNCIL
SUPAI, ARIZONA**

Resolution No. 12-19

**Resolution to Support HR1373 to Permanently
Ban Mining near Grand Canyon**

- WHEREAS, The Havasupai Tribe is a federally recognized sovereign Indian Tribe organized on June 8, 1880 by Presidential Executive Order and subsequently by Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act (the "Tribe"); and
- WHEREAS, The Amended Constitution of the Havasupai Tribe of the Havasupai Reservation (the "Constitution") provides, at Article V, Section 2 "The Havasupai Tribal Council may take any and all actions necessary and proper for the exercise of the foregoing powers and duties, including those powers and duties not enumerated above, and all other powers and duties now or hereafter delegated to the Tribal Council, or vested in the Tribal Council through its inherent sovereignty"; and
- WHEREAS, The Constitution further provides at Article XI, "Mining, exploration, or surveying for uranium on the reservation shall be prohibited";
- WHEREAS, the Havasupai, the Havasu 'Bajaa, are the People of the blue-green water that emits from the Redwall-Muav aquifer at the springs on our reservation and that flows through Havasu Creek cascading over the magnificent waterfalls on its way to the Colorado River;
- WHEREAS, the Redwall-Muav aquifer underlies the Coconino Plateau including the underneath the Canyon uranium mine and other proposed mines and discharges 96% of its water directly to springs and into Havasu Creek on the Havasupai Reservation;
- WHEREAS, there is contaminated groundwater at the Canyon uranium mine site and it may contaminate the Redwall aquifer resulting in direct contamination to the sole source of our water which will harm our being as Havasu 'Bajaa;
- WHEREAS, the water from the Redwall-Muav aquifer is the sole source for all water in the Village of Supai for drinking, domestic use, tourism, livestock, and wildlife;

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council finds that the Secretarial Withdrawal of the federal lands around Grand Canyon was intended to provide scientific information about the effects of uranium mining on the land, the water, the wildlife and the people but the studies have not been adequately funded and there is much to still be studied about the harms from uranium mining;

WHEREAS, we, the Havasu 'Baaja, will be the ones who suffer the consequences of not knowing the science and not knowing the effects of uranium mining around the Grand Canyon;

WHEREAS, our aboriginal lands include the sacred site on which Canyon Mine is located, we are the Indians who lived and grew crops with water from the springs at Indian Gardens in Grand Canyon National Park, we have always lived in our canyon home and will always remain here, we cannot be relocated and remain Havasu 'Baaja;

WHEREAS, we have opposed uranium mining in this area for over 40 years and will continue to do so for all time;

WHEREAS, the United States has a trust obligation to protect us and an obligation to protect and preserve the Grand Canyon region that cannot be met if mining is permitted to continue and to increase on the Coconino Plateau.

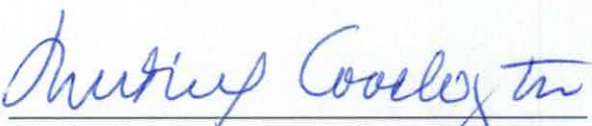
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Havasupai Tribal Council that we support HR1373 and any similar federal legislation that will permanently ban uranium mining and the establishment of new mining claims near the Grand Canyon.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tribal Chairwoman, or in her absence the Vice Chairman or designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take actions necessary to carry out the purposes of this Resolution.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing Resolution is adopted pursuant to the authority of Article V, Section 1 of the Amended Constitution of the Havasupai Tribe, a federally recognized sovereign Indian Tribe and Article II of the Bylaws of the Havasupai Tribe at the Special Council meeting of the Tribal Council on the 15th day of March, 2019 by a vote of 4 for; 0 opposed and 3 abstained.

HAVASUPAI TRIBAL COUNCIL:

By: 
Muriel Coochwyetewa, Chairwoman

ATTEST:

Hope Manakaja
Hope Manakaja, Tribal Secretary