

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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**Michelle Lujan Grisham**  
Governor

**Sarah Cottrell Propst**  
Cabinet Secretary

**Todd E. Leahy, JD, PhD**  
Deputy Secretary



March 30, 2020

The Honorable David Bernhardt  
Secretary of the Interior  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Bureau of Land Management Farmington Field Office, in coordination with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, has prepared a joint Draft Resource Management Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement (RMPA/EIS) to analyze and update resource management issues around Chaco Culture National Historical Park. The 90-day public comment and review period began on February 28, 2020.

In light of the global pandemic and public health crisis with the spread of the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19), many state, local, and tribal leaders and their communities are focused on ensuring public safety first and foremost in this unprecedented situation. In addition, it is critical that the public have adequate time to review and respond to the RMPA/EIS. Therefore, I am writing to request that the Department of the Interior extend the comment period of the RMPA/EIS by at least 120 days, to allow sufficient time for comments.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah Cottrell Propst".

Sarah Cottrell Propst  
Cabinet Secretary