RESOLUTION

ALL PUEBLO COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS
RESOLUTION NO. APCG 2016-17

SUPPORT FOR THE PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF CHACO CANYON NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK FROM ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors ("APCG") is comprised of the Pueblos of Acoma, Cochiti, Isleta, Jemez, Laguna, Nambe, Ohkay Owingeh, Picuris, Pojoaque, San Felipe, San Ildefonso, Sandia, Santa Ana, Santa Clara, Santo Domingo, Taos, Tesuque, Zia and Zuni, and one pueblo in Texas, Ysleta del Sur, each having the sovereign authority to govern their own affairs;

WHEREAS, the purpose of the All Pueblo Council of Governors is to advocate, foster, protect, and encourage the social, cultural & traditional well-being of the Pueblo Nations; and

WHEREAS, through their inherent & sovereign rights, the All Pueblo Council of Governors will promote the language, health, economic, and educational advancement of all Pueblo people; and

WHEREAS, the 20 Pueblos possess government authority and sovereignty over our lands and which include the protection of our language, culture, and tradition; and

WHEREAS, the APCG recognizes the outstanding cultural and historical resources in the Chaco Canyon National Historic Park as direct descendants of the Chacoan cultures, each and every Pueblo maintains a strong cultural affinity to Chaco Canyon sites as primary ancestral homelands since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors Council desires to preserve all valuable tribal and cultural resources that originated on these lands not only for human but also the four-legged, finned and winged beings, and

WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors believes these cultural and historical resources have special importance to all Native Americans in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors appreciates the Government to Government Relationship that was founded upon a unique Trust Responsibility from the Federal Government to Indian Country; and

WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors understand that the Government to Government relationship is based upon strong and on-going communication that requires constant and consistent communication and a physical "sign-off" to assure that silence cannot be taken as consent as part of defensible communication; and
WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Bureau of Land Management Resource Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors believes the fact that access to reliable and affordable energy resources as part of building strong stable Tribal communities is essential to keep up with the more than four percent population growth of our Native Nations; and

WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors require energy, proclaim that the development of that energy should not be in our ancestral graveyards, sacred sites or water resources, and

WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors understand that with the advent of newer technologies such as Hydraulic Fracturing inside the Mancos Shale Horizons, water storage and reinjection of “spent water” bring efficiencies to the Oil & Gas sector for energy development, and

WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors have considered the “Cost Benefit Analysis” of energy development weighed against the risks to the Cultural Resources, and

WHEREAS, the All Pueblo Council of Governors believes Native Tribes should participate in the management of the Chaco Canyon National Historic Park based on their cultural, historical and modern day connection to the Cultural Resources and surrounding former Tribal lands;

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, that the All Pueblo Council of Governors supports the All Pueblo Council of Governors Council support and approve the following measures to protect the Greater Chaco Landscape:

Continue to support the Master Leasing Plan (MLP) approach, from the July 2015 resolution;
   Urge BLM to defer all oil-gas leasing in the remaining 9% of BLM surface-controlled lands in the Farmington Field Office;
   If no. 2 is not possible, then BLM and BIA are urged to make permanent the current, temporary 10-mile cultural protection or buffer zone that is in place surrounding Chaco Culture National Historic Park.
   Support expansion of protected, no-lease areas around significant Chacoan Outlier communities in the Greater Chaco Landscape, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the All Pueblo Council of Governors request to become Co-Lead Agency and Cooperating Agencies under 40 CFR 1500 to assure ongoing participation in future activities, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the All Pueblo Council of Governors advocate the utilization of Tribal and Native professionals to participate as leaders in the preservation, management and monitoring of cultural, air and water resources at the expense of the energy industry, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the All Pueblo Council of Governors welcomes the permanent protection of these historical and cultural resources to be preserved now and for all future generations; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the President of the United States Barack Obama, the United States Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, the Governor of New Mexico Susana Martinez, and the entire New Mexico Congressional Delegation to show support for the protection and preservation of the Chaco Canyon National Historic Park Complex.

CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned officials of the All Pueblo Council of Governors hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. APCG 2016-17 was considered and adopted at a duly called council meeting held on the 17th day of November 2016, and at which time a quorum was present and the same was approved by a vote of 11 in favor, against, 0 abstain, and 0 absent.

ALL PUEBLO COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

By:  
Governor E. Paul Torres, APCG Chairman

ATTEST:

Governor J. Michael Chavarria, APCG Secretary