



Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation

P.O. Box 17779, Fountain Hills, AZ, 85269

Phone (480) 837-5121

Fax (480) 837-1630

President Dr. Clinton Pattea

Vice President Bernadine Burnette

Treasurer Pamela Mott

Council Member Paul Russell

Council Member Ruben Balderas

Council Secretary Pansy Thomas

July 08, 2009

The Honorable Barak Obama
President
United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

RE: Fort McDowell Concerns and Consultation Request regarding Senate Bill
409:Southeast Arizona Land Exchange and Conservation Act of 2009

Dear President Obama:

This letter is intended to provide you information regarding Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation's concerns and the lack of federally mandated consultations regarding the aforementioned bill. In the enclosed letter to Secretary Vilsack, we have outlined our concerns and the requirements that necessitate these government-to-government consultations. In order for the administration to further understand Fort McDowell's concerns on S 409, I have also enclosed our June 17, 2009 written testimony submitted to the U.S. Senate Committee, Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests.

In brief, S 409 proposes to exchange certain lands to Resolution Copper Mining, a foreign owned company, which have been apart of the Yavapai ancestral homeland. This area harbors many sacred sites and is an area where various cultural and religious practices have occurred since time immemorial. The destruction of this area through direct and indirect mining activities will permanently devastate this area. Sir, I can not begin to express what this land means to the Yavapai People, it simply transcends words.

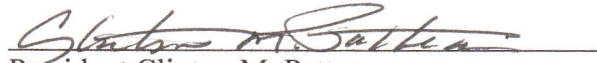
Although Resolution Copper mining operations will have significant and irrevocable impacts on areas such as Devil's Canyon, Oak Flat, and Apache Leap, no formal federal consultations have occurred between Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation and any agency or Department in the Federal Government. Therefore, it is with my sincerest appreciation that your administration continue the government-to-government consultation process outlined in the following Executive Orders:

12875 (1993) Tribal Governance
12898 (1994) Environmental Justice

13084 (1998) Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments,
13175 (2000) - Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments.

My staff and I will be happy to discuss the issues we have outlined in the enclosed documents with anyone within your administration. Please refer them to our Government Relation's Director, Dr. Carole Klopatek, at (480) 789-7261 or by email cklopatek@ftmcdowell.org to begin the consultation process.

Respectfully,



President Clinton M. Pattea
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation

Encls.

cc: Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Tribal Council
Mr. Phil Dorchester, General Manager, Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
Mr. Tom Moriarty, Acting General Council, Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
Dr. Carole Klopatek, Director of Government Relations, FMYN