



CITY OF FLAGSTAFF

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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February 19, 2021

Dear Chairman Grijalva,

The Flagstaff City Council would like to communicate its strong support for the Grand Canyon Protection Act (H.R. 1052), a bill which protects public lands adjacent to Grand Canyon National Park from uranium mining.

Areas surrounding the Grand Canyon are in critical need of protection from mining activities due to human populations that live in the area, the Grand Canyon's vast watershed and its complex ecosystem. Uranium mining is known to cause destructive, life-threatening impacts on human health, including cancers and other ill effects caused by heightened radiation exposure. Radioactive uranium tailings also damage the environment and surrounding natural resources including surface and ground water, air quality and soil health. Of special concern is the health of the Havasupai Indigenous Nation, which relies on waters that flow through the Grand Canyon as its sole source of drinking water.

The Grand Canyon Protection Act (H.R. 1052) protects people and the natural environment from the immense risks of uranium mining by making permanent the 20-year moratorium on uranium mining near the Grand Canyon enacted in 2012. The Bill is coherent with efforts made by impacted Indigenous Nations to stop uranium mining in the area, including the Havasupai, Hualapai, Hopi and Navajo Indigenous Nations.

The Flagstaff City Council supports H.R. 1052 and is confident that it will ensure the protection of northern Arizona's people and environment.

Thank you for your service to our state,

Paul Deasy
Mayor of Flagstaff, on behalf of the Flagstaff City Council