

For Immediate Release

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Indigenous community groups deliver over 800 postcards to Arizona Governor Katie Hobbs, demanding the shutdown of Energy Fuels' Pinyon Plain uranium mine and transport immediately.

Phoenix, AZ - On Monday, March 16, 2026 at 10:00 AM (MST), representatives from Diné C.A.R.E., HaulNo!, Bidii Roots, and White Mesa Concerned Community will gather to deliver more than 800 signed Łeesto eí Dooda postcards to Arizona Governor Katie Hobbs. “Łeesto eí Dooda,” means “No to uranium,” in the Diné language. Indigenous groups are demanding the immediate shutdown of Pinyon Plain Mine (formally Canyon Mine) and end to the transport of radioactive materials through Indigenous communities.

The Łeesto eí Dooda campaign was launched to bring attention to active uranium mining operations and transport across the Navajo Nation and surrounding Indigenous communities. Over 800 community members signed and expressed their concerns of Energy Fuels' Pinyon Plain Mine and its transportation of uranium ore from the Grand Canyon through Navajo Nation to the Energy Fuels uranium mill in southeast Utah. This project is a public health and safety threat that severely impacts several tribal nations, lands, and resources for all people who reside in and visit Northern Arizona and the greater Southwest region, with adverse impacts to surrounding communities and future generations.

Currently, Energy Fuels transports fourteen trucks per day through Havasupai, Paiute, Navajo, Hopi and Ute lands. This mine requires a 5.5 hour drive of the 320-mile transport route, with 261 miles going through the Navajo Nation impacting eleven Navajo Chapters along the haul route. These two-lane roads are intended for public use and not in the best condition already, creating safety risks for local communities and tourists.

Additionally, Pinyon Plain mine continues to operate under an outdated Environmental Impact Statement from 1986 and has yet to further investigate the quality of the Redwall-Muav Aquifer, near and around the area of Pinyon Plain Mine. The Redwall-Muav Aquifer is instrumental in providing drinking water for the Havasupai people, plants and animals, at the bottom of the Grand Canyon. Indigenous communities are also concerned about the company's extensive water

usage, pumping millions of gallons of contaminated water into open-air evaporation ponds and contamination of the aquifer. "Diné C.A.R.E calls for an immediate shut down of Pinyon Plain Mine. We've outreached countless Native communities of northern Arizona and Southern Utah and we all have a collective message to shut it down and to investigate the quality of Redwall-Muav Aquifer. Please center and listen to the impacted White Mesa Ute and Havasupai communities who have been heavily impacted by the state's decision," says Diné C.A.R.E. Energy Organizer Cheyenne Antonio.

Mining destroys land and groundwater, which detrimentally impacts our food, drinking water and cultural resources resulting in adverse health impacts to our People. "The Pinyon Plain mine must be shut down immediately! Energy Fuels planned to mine for only 28 months and their time is up in April! Energy Fuels is contaminating our Mother Earth, most recently polluting the aquifer with excessive amounts of arsenic. We know this is directly caused by Energy Fuel's mining operations and not due to so-called 'natural phenomenon,'" says Haul No! Co-founder Leona Morgan.

For decades, members of the public have expressed strong opposition to Energy Fuels' operations of the Pinyon Plain Mine and the uranium mill in southeast Utah. Uranium extraction has brought undue devastation to Diné families and all downwind communities in Arizona and the greater Western United States. There are still hundreds of abandoned and unreclaimed uranium mines on the Navajo Nation and thousands across the United States. Many families are haunted by uranium production and have yet to see remediation and restoration of contaminated lands and waters. These postcards show that the public does not want the continuation of mining, hauling, or the milling of radioactive materials and demands immediate closure and cleanup of the mine.

"I am looking forward to this coming April. We are nearing the end of the 28-month agreement, and our goal is simple: no more hauling. We are calling on Governor Katie Hobbs to stand with us and make this a reality. Together, we keep our lands and our people safe," says Treina Jones of Bidii Roots.

The overall health and safety of our communities and Nations should not be sacrificed. Diné C.A.R.E. plans to hand deliver over 800 postcard messages from Indigenous community members and other residents of Northern Arizona to shut down the Pinyon Plain Mine and to cease all uranium mining, transportation and milling operations immediately.

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