

RESOLUTION NO. 24

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING AND URGING CAUTION REGARDING OIL AND GAS LEASING ON BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT ADMINISTERED LANDS NEAR HOVENWEEP NATIONAL MONUMENT

WHEREAS the Bureau of Land Management is currently accepting comments on the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) that considers offering 19 parcels near Hovenweep National Monument for oil and gas leasing in September 2019; and,

WHEREAS Hovenweep National Monument is an internationally recognized showpiece for San Juan County and for Utah; and,

WHEREAS Hovenweep National Monument is designated an International Dark Sky Park of the Gold-Tier; and,

WHEREAS the cultural landscape of the area surrounding Hovenweep National Monument contributes to the beauty, economy, cultural heritage preservation, and recreation values of San Juan County; and,

WHEREAS allowing oil and gas development near Hovenweep National Monument may not balance multiple uses and may lead to the degradation of visitor experience, cultural heritage preservation, dark skies, air quality, and water quality in that area; and

WHEREAS one proposed lease parcel would allow for oil and gas extraction as close as 4 miles from Hovenweep National Monument; and,

WHEREAS the US Bureau of Land Management is accepting comments on the draft EA until July 1, 2019; and,

WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the residents of San Juan County for the US Bureau of Land Management to make a well-informed and cautious decision regarding multiple uses of the land; and,

WHEREAS the Town of Bluff is a gateway community to Hovenweep National Monument.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF BLUFF OF SAN JUAN COUNTY, UTAH that the Town of Bluff expresses reservation on oil and gas extraction near Hovenweep National Monument.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Bluff for opposes and calls on the US Bureau of Land Management to exercise caution and ensure that any oil and gas leases on land near

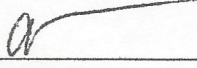
Hovenweep National Monument be conducted in a way that will not negatively impact tourism, cultural heritage preservation, dark skies, traffic flow, air quality, and water resources in the area.

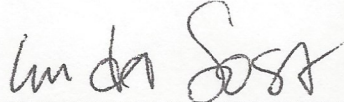
BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Town Council is authorized to file an official comment with the US Bureau of Land Management in accordance with the positions outlined in this resolution.

This resolution shall become effective immediately upon approval and adoption by the Bluff Town Council.

APPROVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLUFF, UTAH, ON THIS
11th DAY OF June, 2019 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Town Council Member Hook	<u>X</u>		___	___
Town Council Mayor Leppanen	<u>X</u>	___	___	___
Town Council Member Murray	<u>X</u>	___	___	___
Town Council Member Sayers	<u>X</u>	___	___	___
Town Council Member Sosa	<u>X</u>	___	___	___

Mayor: 
Ann K. Leppanen

Clerk: 
Linda Sosa