

September 21, 2012

Dine Medicine Man Association, Inc.
Forgotton People
Grand Canyon Trust
Dine Care
Anna Rondon
Kimberly Smith
Ed Becenti
Elouise Brown
Dine Water Rights Coalition
Black Mesa Water Coalition
To'nizhoni Ani
Echoes
Next Indigenous Generation
Hualapai Nation
Havasupai Nation
Hopi Nation
Pueblo of Zuni
Kaibab Band of Paiute

Ya'at'eeh (Greetings),

We are writing on behalf of the People of the Confluence, a local group who oppose the development of the Grand Canyon Escalade at the Confluence of the Little Colorado and Colorado River. We are requesting your support and assistance as well as other organizations to join our local Bodaway/Gap families as a coalition, Protect the Confluence.

The People of the Confluence consist of families who are inherent land users of the western end of the Navajo Nation. We, as registered Bodaway/Gap Chapter voters, voted twice opposing this particular development. Despite the resolutions, Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly and Confluence Partners, LLC are aggressively pushing the project through.

We as land users have oppose this development on the bases of the cultural sensitivities, and the destruction of sacred and prayer offering sites. Our ancestors, grandparents and medicine men shared their stories of emergence in the region, for that reason we are following the same traditions of our elders and standing against this development.

The Confluence Partners, LLC has vigorously pushed their proposed development on the Bodaway/Gap community and across the Western Agency of the Navajo Nation. The Confluence Partners, LLC's inappropriate actions in our community have disrupted family, community relationships and altered the balance of K'e (Kinship). The People of the Confluence have been misrepresented by the Confluence Partners, LLC through newspaper advertisements because they have the means to do so. Therefore, we are asking organizations, surrounding tribes, and grassroots efforts to help us make sure our voices are properly heard in this effort and to re-establish K'e

(Kinship) among community members and families.

The People of the Confluence would appreciate your support and collective involvement toward a proper community-based economic development project that meets our community needs and, is in concert with our local values, as well as our traditional importance. We look forward to reaching for a united Bodaway/Gap community effort of all for our community members and to plan a proper development that comes from the entire Bodaway/Gap Chapter as a whole.

As part of this coalition effort we would like to ask for assistance in a number of avenues. We are aware of your busy schedules and your assistance would be greatly appreciated. We are seeking your assistance in helping with public education, grass roots mobilizing, public outreaching, research, and collaboration. In addition, further assistance with public events such as developing tribal fair parades floats and information booths.

It is important for everyone to know and to understand that in carrying out this important work, the People of the Confluence would be lead decision makers of this coalition. Our coalition efforts will contribute to implementing the overall strategy of the People of the Confluence as we look forward to a brighter future for all our Bodaway/Gap families.

Ahe'hee,

People of the Confluence

The People of the Confluence
www.savetheconfluence.com
<http://savetheconfluence.com/about>
PO Box 1820
Tuba City, AZ
(928) 856-1665