

JOHN McCAIN  
ARIZONA

CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON  
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## United States Senate

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February 28, 2018

Mr. Anthony Quintile  
Flagstaff Biking Organization  
P.O. Box 23851  
Flagstaff, AZ 86002

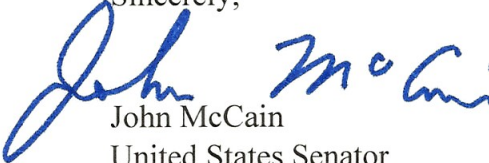
Dear Mr. Quintile:

Thank you for contacting me regarding my efforts to conclude the Navajo-Hopi land dispute. I appreciate hearing your views on this matter.

As you may know, the Hopi Tribe has waited more than 20 years for the federal government to replace its aboriginal lands that were lost in the Navajo-Hopi land dispute. This matter takes on added importance because the Hopi Tribe anticipates losing about 80% of its General Fund if the Navajo Generating Station closes. The Tribe seeks to expand its economic base with more sustainable options located on unincorporated areas adjacent to the I-40 corridor. Addressing this matter could also advance the economic and conservation goals of other northern Arizonan parties, including the Navajo Nation, Coconino County, and the City of Flagstaff.

I stand ready to help the Hopi explore the possibility of drafting legislation to transfer approximately 146,228 acres of State Trust Land that have long been identified as appropriate replacement lands. In order for the State of Arizona to part with land under its jurisdiction, it must be properly compensated, likely through the acquisition of federal land that would be openly and transparently identified under such legislation. I have asked elected officials from the City of Flagstaff and Coconino County for their input to ensure that any lands considered for conveyance would not interfere with local conservation and recreation priorities. Please be assured that no federal lands have been predetermined for inclusion and that I will not advance any legislation in Congress without first seeking local support.

Thank you again for sharing your views on this matter. Do not hesitate to contact me again on this issue.

Sincerely,  
  
John McCain  
United States Senator