



RESOLUTION

ALL PUEBLO COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS  
RESOLUTION NO. APCG 2025-07

Acoma

Cochiti

Isleta

Jemez

Laguna

Nambe

Ohkay Owingeh

Picuris

Pojoaque

Sandia

San Felipe

San Ildefonso

Santa Ana

Santa Clara

Santo Domingo

Taos

Tesuque

Ysleta del Sur

Zia

Zuni

**TO OPPOSE THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT’S INITIATION OF THE PROCESS TO REVOKE PUBLIC LAND ORDER NO. 7923, TO DEMAND SUSPENSION OF THE REVOCATION PROCESS PENDING GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION, AND TO REAFFIRM THE ALL PUEBLO COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS’ COMMITMENT TO THE PROTECTION OF THE GREATER CHACO LANDSCAPE**

**WHEREAS**, the All Pueblo Council of Governors (APCG) is comprised of the Pueblos of Acoma, Cochiti, Isleta, Jemez, Laguna, Nambe, Ohkay Owingeh, Picuris, Pojoaque, San Felipe, San Ildefonso, Sandia, Santa Ana, Santa Clara, Santo Domingo, Taos, Tesuque, Zia, and Zuni, and one Pueblo in Texas, Ysleta del Sur, each possessing inherent sovereignty and the authority to govern its own affairs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Greater Chaco Region, encompassing Chaco Culture National Historical Park (“Chaco Canyon”) and surrounding cultural landscapes, holds profound spiritual, historical, and cultural significance to many Pueblos and Tribes, including the Hopi Tribe, in the Southwest; and

**WHEREAS**, for more than a decade, the APCG has consistently acted to protect Chaco Canyon and the Greater Chaco Region, as reflected in prior resolutions including APCG 2025-02, 2024-06, 2024-05, 2023-08, 2022-06, 2019-10, and 2017-12, which collectively call for permanent withdrawal of federal lands from mineral leasing, completion of the Greater Chaco Resource Management Plan Amendment (RMPA), and passage of the Chaco Cultural Heritage Area Protection Act; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 7, 2023, the U.S. Department of the Interior issued Public Land Order (PLO) No. 7923, withdrawing approximately 336,404 acres of federal lands in an approximate ten-mile buffer area surrounding Chaco Culture National Historical Park from new mineral leasing and entry under the U.S. mining laws for a period of twenty (20) years, recognizing the cultural and environmental sensitivity of the area; and

**WHEREAS**, PLO No. 7923 protects valid existing mineral and leasing rights along with Navajo Nation’s and Navajo Allottees mineral and leasing rights;

**WHEREAS**, since December of 2019, Congress through appropriations legislation has also maintained a moratorium preventing new oil and gas leasing and development on federal land in the ten-mile buffer area; and



# All Pueblo Council of Governors

Officers:

Dominic Gachupin, Chairman

Lt. Governor Craig Quanchello, Vice Chairman

Governor Cordelia Hooee, Secretary

Acoma

**WHEREAS**, prior to the PLO 7923 the New Mexico State Land Office withdrew adjoining state trust lands within the same ten-mile buffer, as part of a cooperative framework of federal, state, and tribal protection; and

Cochiti

**WHEREAS**, PLO 7923 was initiated in full compliance of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA);

Isleta

Jemez

**WHEREAS**, on October 30, 2025, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Farmington Field Office issued formal written notice initiating a process to revoke PLO 7923 in whole or in part, citing Executive Order 14154 (“Unleashing American Energy”) and Secretary’s Order 3418, and proposing to revert management of the area to the outdated 2003 Farmington Resource Management Plan; and

Laguna

Nambe

Ohkay Owingeh

Picuris

**WHEREAS**, the BLM’s proposed preparation of only an Environmental Assessment (EA) is procedurally and substantively inadequate, as the revocation of PLO 7923 would reopen over 336,000 acres to new mineral leasing and mining, constituting a major federal action that may significantly affect the quality of the human environment; and

Pojoaque

Sandia

**WHEREAS**, under NEPA, such an action requires preparation of a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess cumulative, cultural, and environmental consequences, given that the proposed revocation would materially alter and disturb landscapes of exceptional cultural importance; and

San Felipe

San Ildefonso

Santa Ana

**WHEREAS**, the BLM letter announced an expedited process and 14-day public comment period without adequate prior government-to-government consultation, contrary to Executive Order 13175, the Department of the Interior’s Tribal Consultation Policy, NHPA, and the federal trust responsibility; and

Santa Clara

Santo Domingo

Taos

**WHEREAS**, the timing of the BLM’s notice and proposed 14-day comment period coincides with an ongoing federal government shutdown that limits agency operations and communication, and may overlap with Pueblo leadership transitions in December and January, together preventing meaningful consultation and timely participation as required under Executive Order 13175, NEPA, and the Department of the Interior’s Tribal Consultation Policy; and

Tesuque

Ysleta del Sur

Zia

Zuni

**WHEREAS**, proceeding with consultation or public comment during a period of government shutdown and tribal transition fails to provide the meaningful and timely engagement; and



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**WHEREAS**, the proposed revocation of PLO 7923 disregards the thorough procedural and guidance followed under FLMPA, NEPA, and NHPA with more than a decade of formal consultation and public record supporting the withdrawal, and exposes irreplaceable cultural resources to immediate and cumulative harm; and

Acoma

**WHEREAS**, any attempt to revoke or reduce the withdrawal before completing an updated RMPA would return management to a plan that predates horizontal drilling and fails to account for the extensive oil and gas development, cumulative impacts, and updated scientific and cultural information that have emerged since the 2003 Resource Management Plan was adopted; and

Cochiti

Isleta

Jemez

Laguna

**WHEREAS**, such an action would also disregard the Chaco Heritage Tribal Association (CHTA) ethnographic study, a federally funded study specifically done to address the absence of needed information in the records of the BLM, which provides a foundation for understanding the cultural significance of the Greater Chaco Region and should inform all future federal planning and decision-making; and

Nambe

Ohkay Owingeh

Picuris

Pojoaque

**WHEREAS**, the APCG finds that the BLM's action threatens to dismantle years of tribal, federal, and state coordination, undermines the integrity of the consultation process, and places the Greater Chaco Region at renewed risk from extractive development.

Sandia

San Felipe

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the All Pueblo Council of Governors strongly opposes the Bureau of Land Management's proposed revocation of PLO 7923 in whole or in part, and demands that the Department of the Interior immediately suspend all actions related to the revocation pending full, meaningful, and government-to-government consultation with affected Pueblos and Tribes; and

San Ildefonso

Santa Ana

Santa Clara

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the APCG reaffirms its demand that the Department of the Interior restart and complete the Greater Chaco RMPA, incorporating robust tribal consultation, ethnographic data, and updated scientific analysis to ensure that any future management decisions are culturally and environmentally responsible; and

Santo Domingo

Taos

Tesuque

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the APCG urges the United States Congress to expedite passage of the Chaco Cultural Heritage Area Protection Act to make the ten-mile buffer permanent, protecting the Greater Chaco Landscape from future administrative reversals; and

Ysleta del Sur

Zia

Zuni

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the APCG calls upon the New Mexico State Land Office and other state and local partners to maintain their protective withdrawals and to coordinate with the Pueblos in opposing the federal revocation effort; and



# All Pueblo Council of Governors

Officers:

Dominic Gachupin, Chairman

Lt. Governor Craig Quanchello, Vice Chairman

Governor Cordelia Hooee, Secretary

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution shall serve as a reaffirmation of APCG Resolution No. 2025-02 and as an urgent response to the BLM's October 30, 2025, action, declaring the proposed revocation an imminent threat to the cultural and spiritual integrity of the Greater Chaco Region; and

Acoma

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Zia


Zuni

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the Chairman or his designee is authorized to take all actions necessary to implement this resolution, including transmitting it to the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Interior, the Director of the Bureau of Land Management, the New Mexico Congressional Delegation, and other relevant agencies and partners.

## CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned officials of the All Pueblo Council of Governors, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. APCG 2025-07 was considered and adopted at a duly called council meeting held on the 14th day of November, 2025, at which a quorum was present, and the same was approved by a vote of 17 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining, and 3 absent.

## ALL PUEBLO COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

By:   
Dominic Gachupin, Chairman

ATTEST:   
Cordelia Hooee, Secretary