EXHIBIT 18

June 3, 2021 Letter from RSIC; June 16, 2021 Letter from Burns Paiute Tribe; June 24, 2021 Letter from the People

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Case 3:21

RENO-SPARKS INDIAN COLONY * TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE (THPO)

1995 East Second Street, Reno, NV 89502 • Mailing Address: 34 Reservation Road, Reno, NV 89502 Phone: (775) 785-1326

June 3, 2021

Ms. Ester McCullough, District Manager Mr. Ken Loda, Project Manager Bureau of Land Management Winnemucca District Office 5100 East Winnemucca Blvd. Winnemucca, NV 89445

Dear Ms. McCullough and Mr. Loda,

The Reno-Sparks Indian Colony (RSIC) is a federally recognized tribe located in Reno and Sparks, Nevada and represents its members and descendants of the Shoshone, Paiute and Washoe peoples. The RSIC is requesting that you halt any plans for mechanical trenching operations and any other construction activities as part of the Thacker Pass Lithium Mine Project ("the Project") until meaningful government-to-government consultation with all of the tribes that are connected to Thacker Pass has concluded. Because you have not engaged in meaningful consultation, or in most of the undersigned tribes' cases, *any* consultation, the Thacker Pass Project's Record of Decision and Plan of Operations must be rescinded.

The RSIC has several residents, members and employees that have direct cultural connections to Thacker Pass located in Northern Nevada. In addition, the following tribes attach religious and cultural significance to Thacker Pass. These tribes include the Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe, Summit Lake Paiute Tribe, Burns Paiute Tribe of Oregon, Duck Valley Shoshone-Paiute Tribe, Lovelock Paiute Tribe, Battle Mountain Band Colony of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone, Winnemucca Indian Colony, Cedarville Rancheria, Ft. Bidwell Indian Community, Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, and the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony. The RSIC feels that the BLM Winnemucca Field Office doesn't have the traditional understanding of the relationships of tribal organizations within the States of Nevada, Oregon and California.

All of these tribes assert that Thacker Pass is a spiritually powerful place blessed by the presence of our ancestors and other spirits; contains our traditional foods and medicines including toza, ibi, yapa, and chokecherries; has been a place where our people have gathered obsidian to make arrowheads (projectile points) and other significant tools for thousands of years; provides habitat for wildlife we hunt including groundhog and mule deer; and is home to sacred golden eagles, who we believe are directly connected to the Creator and our ancestral past. The BLM Winnemucca District Office must understand that Thacker Pass is a shared use area by a number of tribes. Just because regional tribes have been isolated and forced on to reservations relatively far away from Thacker Pass does not mean these regional tribes do not possess cultural connections to the Pass.

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We also possess powerful historical connections to Thacker Pass. Some of our ancestors were massacred in Thacker Pass. In our Numic language, the name for Thacker Pass is *Peehee mu'huh*, which in English translates to "rotten moon." *Peehee mu'huh* was named so because our ancestors were massacred there while our hunters were away. When the hunters returned, they found their loved ones murdered, unburied, rotting, and with their entrails spread across the sage brush in a part of the Pass shaped like a moon. To disturb this massacre site in *Peehee mu'huh* would be like disturbing Pearl Harbor or Arlington National Cemetery.

In addition to the massacre, when American soldiers were rounding our people up to force them on to reservations, many of our people hid in Thacker Pass. There are many caves and rocks in Thacker Pass where our people could see the surrounding land for miles. The caves, rocks, and view provided our ancestors with a good place to watch for approaching soldiers. Disturbing cultural sites in Thacker Pass, may very well destroy camp sites our ancestors used when hiding from American soldiers. Destroying these sites destroys our history. And, it makes us wonder if an underlying motivation for this mine is to destroy the historical evidence of the genocide perpetrated against our people.

The Thacker Pass Final Environmental Impact Statement (DOI-BLM-NV-W010-2020-00120-EIS) ("FEIS") states that archival background research and pedestrian inventories have identified over one thousand cultural resource sites, including the Double H/Whitehorse Obsidian Procurement District, that would be directly affected by the Project's Mining and Exploration Plans. The Thacker Pass Component of this Obsidian Procurement District is a National Register of Historic Places-eligible district under Criterion D through BLM-State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) consultation in 2009. BLM and Nevada SHPO have also concurred that the Project would adversely affect 56 historic properties that are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The RSIC considers this entire area a Native America Historic District, as well as a Traditional Cultural Property and must be treated as such, which demands NOT removing our ancestral remains or their significant cultural items!

We have just learned, through a Motion for Preliminary Injunction filed in the case *Western Watersheds Project v. United States Department of the Interior* (Case No. 3:21-cv-00103) that, as soon as June 23, 2021, Lithium Nevada Corporation ("LNC") intends to begin mechanical trenching operations at seven undisclosed sites within the Project area, each up to 40 meters long and a few meters deep. LNC also plans to dig up to 5 feet deep at 20 other undisclosed sites, all pursuant to a new historical/cultural resources plan that the undersigned tribes were never consulted about. If LNC is allowed to proceed with digging up Native American cultural items, cultural sites, and possibly even Native American human remains in Thacker Pass, this will be a violation of federal law including the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The RSIC is requesting the FINAL Cultural Resource Inventory of Thacker Pass (authored by Far Western Anthropological Research Firm), Historic Properties Treatment Plan and the Unanticipated Discovery Plan.

As you know, NEPA's Implementing Regulations at 40 CFR § 1501.2(4)(ii) requires you to consult early with appropriate tribal governments. Executive Order 13175 further directs the BLM to establish regular meaningful consultation and collaboration with Native American Tribal governments on the development of regulatory policies and permit approvals for proposed projects that could substantially or uniquely affect tribal communities.

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Section 101(d)(6)(B) of the National Historic Preservation Act and 36 C.F.R. § 800.2 require you to consult with any Indian tribe that attaches religious and cultural significance to historic properties that may be affected by an undertaking. This requirement applies regardless of the location of the historic property. Finally, President Biden, in a January 26, 2021 Memorandum on Tribal Consultation and Strengthening Nation-to-Nation Relationships, charged "all executive departments and agencies with engaging in regular, meaningful, and robust consultation with Tribal officials in the development of Federal policies that have Tribal implications." If President Biden's new administration, of which you are a part, is to gain the public's trust and confidence, it must put meaning behind the words "regular, meaningful, and robust consultation."

So far, that isn't happening. The FEIS (at Appendix G.1.17.1) only lists the following "episodes of consultation":

- the transmission of a consultation letter in December 2019 to tribal representatives at the Fort
 McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe, Summit Lake Paiute Tribe, and Winnemucca Indian Colony
- in-field meeting and project discussion at Thacker Pass with tribal members of the Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe on October 3, 2018.

You've also tried to list BLM literature searches and ethnographic studies as well as a consultation with the Fort McDermitt and Summit Lake Tribes on a different project in 2014 as "episodes of consultation." Sending a letter is not meaningful consultation. Discussing the project with unspecified tribal members over two-and-a-half years ago when you knew LNC's plans for the Project had changed significantly over those two-and-a-half years is not meaningful consultation. Reading academic literature is not meaningful consultation. And, consulting about a different project, with totally different extractive processes seven years ago, is not meaningful consultation. Regardless, you have not consulted with any of the aforementioned tribes or the RSIC in any manner what-so-ever.

Therefore, the Project's Record of Decision and Plan of Operations must be rescinded and you must stop any plans to disturb Native American cultural resources or historic properties in Thacker Pass. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Michon R. Eben

Cultural Resource Manager

THPO

cc: Deb Haaland, US Department of Interior
Bryan Hockett, BLM Nevada State Archeologist
Shannon Deep, BLM Winnemucca Archeologist
Paul Souza, USFWS Regional Director
Thomas Leeman, USFWS Acting Chief of Migratory Birds



Burns Paiute Tribe 100 Pasigo Street Burns, OR 97720

June 16, 2021

Ms. Ester McCullough, District Manager Mr. Ken Loda, Project Manager Shannon Deep, Archaeologist Bureau of Land Management Winnemucca District Office 5100 East Winnemucca Blvd. Winnemucca, NV 89445

Dear Ms. McCullough, Mr. Loda, and Ms. Deep,

The Burns Paiute Tribe request that you halt any plans for mechanical trenching operations and any other construction activities as part of the Thacker Pass Lithium Mine Project ("the Project") until meaningful government-to-government consultation with us and all of the tribes that are connected to Thacker Pass has concluded. Because you have not engaged in *any* consultation with us the Thacker Pass Project's Record of Decision and Plan of Operations must be rescinded.

We attach religious and cultural significance to Thacker Pass. Thacker Pass is a spiritually powerful place blessed by the presence of our ancestors and other spirits; contains our traditional foods and medicines including toza, ibi, yapa, and chokecherries; has been a place where our people have gathered obsidian to make arrowheads and other tools for thousands of years; provides habitat for wildlife we hunt including groundhog and mule deer; and is home to sacred golden eagles, who we believe are directly connected to the Creator. The BLM Winnemucca District Office must understand that Thacker Pass is a shared use area by a number of tribes. Just because regional tribes have been isolated and forced on to reservations relatively far away from Thacker Pass does not mean these regional tribes do not possess cultural connections to the Pass.

We also possess powerful historical connections to Thacker Pass. Some of our ancestors were massacred in Thacker Pass. In our Numic language, the name for Thacker Pass is *Peehee mu'huh*, which in English translates to "rotten moon." *Peehee mu'huh* was named so because our ancestors were massacred there while our hunters were away. When the hunters returned, they found their loved ones murdered, unburied, rotting, and with their entrails spread across the sage brush in a part of the Pass shaped like a moon. To disturb this massacre site in *Peehee mu'huh* would be like disturbing Pearl Harbor or Arlington National Cemetery.

In addition to the massacre, when American soldiers were rounding our people up to force them on to reservations, many of our people hid in Thacker Pass. There are many caves and rocks in Thacker Pass where our people could see the surrounding land for miles. The caves, rocks, and view provided our ancestors with a good place to watch for approaching soldiers. Disturbing cultural sites in Thacker Pass, may very well destroy camp sites our ancestors used when hiding from American soldiers. Destroying these sites destroys our history. And, it makes us wonder if an underlying motivation for this mine is to destroy the historical evidence of the genocide perpetrated against our people.

The Thacker Pass Final Environmental Impact Statement (DOI-BLM-NV-W010-2020-00120-EIS) ("FEIS") states that archival background research and pedestrian inventories have identified over 1000 cultural resource sites, including the Double H/Whitehorse Obsidian Procurement District, that would be directly affected by the Project's Mining and Exploration Plans. The Thacker Pass Component of this Obsidian Procurement District is a National Register of Historic Places-eligible district under Criterion D through BLM-State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) consultation in 2009. BLM and Nevada SHPO have also concurred that the Project would adversely affect 56 historic properties that are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

We have just learned, through a Motion for Preliminary Injunction filed in the case *Western Watersheds Project v. United States Department of the Interior* (Case No. 3:21-cv-00103) that, as soon as June 23, 2021, Lithium Nevada Corporation ("LNC") intends to begin mechanical trenching operations at seven undisclosed sites within the Project area, each up to 40 meters long and a few meters deep. LNC also plans to dig up to 5 feet deep at 20 other undisclosed sites, all pursuant to a new historical/cultural resources plan that we were never consulted about. If LNC is allowed to proceed with digging up artifacts, cultural sites, and possibly even human remains in Thacker Pass, this will be a violation of federal law including the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

As you know, NEPA's Implementing Regulations at 40 CFR § 1501.2(4)(ii) requires you to consult early with appropriate tribal governments. Executive Order 13175 further directs the BLM to establish regular meaningful consultation and collaboration with Native American Tribal governments on the development of regulatory policies and permit approvals for proposed projects that could substantially or uniquely affect tribal communities.

Section 101(d)(6)(B) of the National Historic Preservation Act and 36 C.F.R. § 800.2 require you to consult with any Indian tribe that attaches religious and cultural significance to historic properties that may be affected by an undertaking. This requirement applies regardless of the location of the historic property. Finally, President Biden, in a January 26, 2021 Memorandum on Tribal Consultation and Strengthening Nation-to-Nation Relationships, charged "all executive departments and agencies with engaging in regular, meaningful, and robust consultation with Tribal officials in the development of Federal policies that have Tribal implications." If President Biden's new administration, of which you are a part, is to gain the public's trust and confidence, it must put meaning behind the words "regular, meaningful, and robust consultation."

So far, that isn't happening. The FEIS (at Appendix G.1.17.1) only lists the following "episodes of consultation":

- the transmission of a consultation letter in December 2019 to tribal representatives at the Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe, Summit Lake Paiute Tribe, and Winnemucca Indian Colony
- in-field meeting and project discussion at Thacker Pass with tribal members of the Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe on October 3, 2018.

You've also tried to list BLM literature searches and ethnographic studies as well as a consultation with the Fort McDermitt and Summit Lake Tribes on a different project in 2014 as "episodes of consultation." But, we have not been contacted or consulted about this project what-so-ever.

Therefore, the Project's Record of Decision and Plan of Operations must be rescinded and you must stop any plans to disturb cultural resources or historic properties in Thacker Pass. If you do not make this rescission, stop the construction operations, and begin meaningful consultation with us, we are prepared to initiate legal action.

Sincerely,

Jody Richards

Burns Paiute Tribal Chairwoman

Cc: Deb Haaland, US Department of the Interior

June 24, 2021

Ms. Ester McCullough, District Manager Mr. Ken Loda, Project Manager Bureau of Land Management Winnemucca District Office 5100 East Winnemucca Blvd. Winnemucca, NV 89445

Ms. McCullough and Mr. Loda:

We, the undersigned members of the Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe, through counsel, assert that the organization Atsa koodakuh wyh Nuwu (the People of Red Mountain), an unincorporated association formed by the undersigned, is an appropriate party to be consulted with under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and the 2014 BLM-Nevada State Historic Preservation Officer State Protocol Agreement (PA) as the Bureau of Land Management, Winnemucca District Office (BLM) considers mitigation of adverse effects to historic properties in Peehee mu'huh (Thacker Pass). We also write to inform BLM of the religious, cultural, and historical significance of Peehee mu'huh. This religious, cultural, and historical significance qualifies Peehee mu'huh for classification in both the "Conservation For Future Use" and "Traditional Use" categories described in BLM Manual 8110. Finally, we assert that BLM has so far failed to adequately consult with other tribes and must do so before any physical disturbance happens in Peehee mu'huh.

I. Atsa koodakuh wyh Nuwu is an appropriate party for consultation about adverse effects to properties of religious and cultural significance in Peehee mu'huh under NHPA, NEPA, the 2014 BLM-SHPO PA, and federal case law.

Atsa koodakuh wyh Nuwu was formed to raise awareness about the religious, cultural, and historical importance of Peehee mu'huh. All of the members of Atsa koodakuh wyh Nuwu practice the traditional spirituality our ancestors practiced for thousands of years. Several of our members are traditional cultural and religious leaders with extensive training in the ceremonies of our people. We maintain our oral histories and hold our people's traditional knowledges. Just like generations of our ancestors before us, we camp, hike, perform ceremony, pray, hunt, and gather our traditional medicines in Peehee mu'huh. We plan to do so for the rest of our lives. For the elders in Atsa koodakuh wyh Nuwu, Paiute is the first language and we still prefer to speak Paiute over English.

Atsa koodakuh wyh Nuwu is an appropriate party for consultation about the adverse effects to properties of religious and cultural significance in Peehee mu'huh described in the Thacker Pass Lithium Mine Project Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) as both members of the general public and through the guidelines for Native American

participation described in Sections A and B, respectively, of the BLM-SHPO Protocol Agreement Preamble. We assume that a Cultural Resource Inventory Needs Assessment (CRINA) has been completed, though the public record is devoid of this documentation. BLM is directed to invite, if appropriate, those who request to participate as consulting parties after completion of the CRINA, to participate in the process of determining the actions to be undertaken to avoid, minimize, or mitigate those adverse effects (PA Preamble, Section A).

BLM must seek and consider the views of the general public in a manner that reflects the nature and complexity of the undertaking and its effects on historic properties (PA Preamble, Section A). Native American participation is guided by 36 CFR § 800.2(c)(2)(ii)(A-F), the provisions of BLM Manual 8120 and the latest edition of any associated Handbook, as well as any policy guidance issued by BLM that supplements the Manual (PA Preamble, Section B).

Reasonable treatments for those effects can only be determined in consultation with the people who value the property (SHPO Protocol Agreement, Section V.C.3). 36 CFR § 800.2(c)(5) explains that "[c]ertain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking may participate as consulting parties due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties." BLM Handbook 1780-1, "Improving and Sustaining BLM-Tribal Relations" lists "traditional cultural or religious leaders" as Indian parties for consultation (Chapter III.C.2).

Furthermore, federal courts have found that an individual Native American who avers that he or she has personally visited sites of traditional cultural significance in the project area and will do so in the future have standing under both constitutional and prudential requirements. See, for example, *Montana Wilderness Ass'n v. Frye*, 310 F Supp2d 1127, 1150-51 (D Mont 2004).

Atsa koodakuh wyh Nuwu deeply values Peehee mu'huh as a sacred site and for Peehee mu'huh's singular cultural and historic importance to our people. We are deeply concerned with the Thacker Pass Lithium Mine's effects would have on Peehee mu'huh. Because we depend on Peehee mu'huh for food and medicine as described below, we also have a unique economic relation to Peehee mu'huh. As explained above, Atsa koodakuh wyh Nuwu members are traditional cultural and religious leaders.

II. BLM must allocate Peehee mu'huh to the "Conservation for Future Use" and "Traditional Use" categories described in BLM Manual 8110 and provide Peehee mu'huh long-term preservation.

Field Office managers shall allocate to appropriate use categories all cultural properties known and projected to occur in a plan area and a cultural property may be allocated to more than one use category (BLM Manual 8110.41(A)). Allocations shall be reevaulated and revised, as appropriate, when circumstances change or new data become available (8110.41(B)). The "Conservation for Future Use" category is reserved for, among other

characteristics, any unusual cultural property which, because of singular historic importance or cultural importance is not currently available for consideration as the subject of scientific or historical study that would result in its physical alteration (8110.42(B)). A cultural property included in this category is deemed worthy of segregation from all other land or resource uses, including cultural resource uses, that would result in its physical alteration (Id.). Long-term preservation is required for properties that fall into this category (BLM Manual 8110, Table 8110-1).

The "Traditional Use" category is to be applied to any cultural resource known to be perceived by a specified social and/or cultural group as important in maintaining the cultural identity, heritage, or well-being of the group (8110.42 (C)). Cultural properties assigned to this category are to be managed in ways that recognize the importance ascribed to them and seek to accommodate their continuing traditional use (Id.). Long-term preservation is desirable for properties that fall into this category (Table 8110-1).

Peehee mu'huh is an unusual cultural property with singular historic and cultural importance that should not be physically altered, especially by the absolute physical alteration Lithium Nevada's massive open pit lithium mine would achieve. Our oral histories tell us that Peehee mu'huh was the site of a terrible massacre of our people. In fact, this history is in the original name of the site itself. Peehee mu'huh was named so because our ancestors were massacred there while our hunters were away. When the hunters returned, they found their loved ones murdered, unburied, rotting, and with their entrails spread across the sage brush in a part of the Pass shaped like a moon. Peehee mu'huh translates in English to "rotten moon."

To build a lithium mine over Peehee mu'huh, where our ancestors were massacred, where our ancestors' bones, blood, and flesh form a part of the soil, would be like building a lithium mine over Pearl Harbor, Arlington National Cemetery, or the Gettysburg Battlefield.

Peehee mu'huh is not just central to our identity as a people, it is central to our existence as a people. The Fort McDermitt tribe might not exist if it wasn't for the shelter provided by Peehee mu'huh. When American soldiers were rounding our ancestors up at the point of a gun to force them onto reservations, our people hid in Peehee mu'huh. There are many caves and stone outcroppings in Peehee mu'huh where our ancestors could watch the surrounding land for miles. When our ancestors saw dust stirred by approaching cavalry patrols, they fled up the Montana Mountains above Peehee mu'huh and into the caves. The Fort McDermitt tribe descends from essentially two families who, hiding in Peehee mu'huh, managed to avoid being sent to reservations farther away from our ancestral lands. We will forever be grateful to Peehee mu'huh for the shelter she provided for us.

We also believe that some of our ancestors are buried in Peehee mu'huh. Peehee mu'huh contains dozens of caves, stone outcroppings, and similar geologic features. Traditionally, our people often used caves, stone outcroppings, and similar geologic features to bury our dead in. Peehee mu'huh was traditionally used as a major route

from the Quinn River Valley to the King's River Valley and beyond. This fact, combined with the number of cultural resources (over 1000) and historic properties (58) that BLM's field inventories have identified, makes it so we can almost guarantee that our ancestors' human remains are in Peehee mu'huh.

Peehee mu'huh is essential to the survival of our traditions. Our traditions are tied to the land. When our land is destroyed, our traditions are destroyed. Peehee mu'huh is home to many of our traditional foods. Some of our last choke cherry orchards are found in Peehee mu'huh. We gather choke cherries to make choke cherry pudding, one of our oldest breakfast foods. Peehee mu'huh is also a rich source of yapa, wild potatoes. We hunt groundhogs, rabbits, and mule deer in Peehee mu'huh. Mule deer are especially important to us as a source of meat, but we also use every part of the deer for things like clothing and for drumskins in our most sacred ceremonies.

Peehee mu'huh is one of the last places where we can find our traditional medicines. We gather ibi, a chalky rock that we use for ulcers and both internal and external bleeding, there. COVID-19 made Peehee mu'huh even more important for gathering our medicines. Last summer and fall, when the pandemic was at its worst on the reservation, we went to Peehee mu'huh for toza root, which is known as one of the world's best anti-viral medicines. We also gathered good, old-growth sage brush to make our strong Indian tea, which we use for respiratory illnesses, there.

III. Many tribes beyond the Fort McDermitt Paiute-Shoshone Tribe attach religious and cultural significance to Peehee mu'huh and must be engaged in meaningful, government-to-government consultation before Peehee mu'huh is physically disturbed.

The Preamble to the BLM-SHPO 2014 State Protocol Agreement obligates BLM to follow 36 CFR § 800.2(c)2(ii)(A-F) for Native American participation in this Project. Under § 800.2(c)2(ii), any Indian tribe that attaches religious and cultural significance to historic properties that may be affected by an undertaking must be consulted.

Under the 2014 BLM-SHPO PA, Section V.F.4.a, "the MOA must be signed by the appropriate parties <u>prior</u> to BLM's issuance of a...ROD for the undertaking" (emphasis with original). Section V.F.4.b requires that draft MOAs should be made available for public comment. According to the Project Final Environmental Impact Statement, an MOA was signed with the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). However, this MOA has not been signed by the appropriate Indian tribes as required by Section V.F.4.a and 36 CFR § 800.2(c)2(ii)(A-F). Nor were drafts of this MOA made available for public comment.

Below are the appropriate Indian tribes described in Section V.F.4.a that BLM was required to include as signatories prior to issuance of the ROD. Tribes that attach religious and cultural significance to historic properties in Thacker Pass likely include the Battle Mountain Band Colony of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone, Burns

Paiute Tribe of Oregon, Cedarville Rancheria, Duck Valley Shoshone-Paiute Tribe, Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe, Ft. Bidwell Indian Community, Fort McDermitt Paiute-Shoshone Tribe, Lovelock Paiute Tribe, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, Summit Lake Paiute Tribe, and Winnemucca Indian Colony.

BLM must understand that Thacker Pass is a shared use area by a number of tribes. Just because the federal government has isolated regional tribes and forced them onto reservations relatively distant from Thacker Pass does not mean these regional tribes do not attach religious and cultural significance to the Pass. This is supported by § 800.2(c)2(ii) which applies "regardless of the location of the historic property."

We know that BLM is planning to allow desecration of Peehee mu'huh as early as July 29th. Please respond promptly with your intention to prevent any desecration of Peehee mu'huh until Atsa koodakuh wyh Nuwu and the tribes who attach religious and cultural significance to Peehee mu'huh have had an adequate time to consult with you about mitigating adverse effects to traditional cultural, and historic, properties in Peehee mu'huh. If BLM fails to do so, Atsa koodakuh wyh Nuwu is investigating initiating litigation against BLM.

Sincerely,

Atsa koodakuh wyh Nuwu (The People of Red Mountain):

Inelda Sam
Josephine Dick
Elvida Crutcher
Alva Brown
Alveeta Brown
Dorece Antonio
Daranda Hinkey
Takayla Antonio
David Hinkey
Myron Smart
Earl Northrup
Day Hinkey

William Falk

William Falk (Utah Bar No. 16678) Counsel for Atsa koodaku wyh Nuwu/People of Red Mountain falkwilt@gmail.com

CC:

Bryan Hockett, BLM Nevada State Archaeologist Shannon Deep, BLM Winnemucca Archaeologist