The Great Spirit created Man and Woman in his own image. In doing so, both were created as equals. Both depending on each other in order to survive. Great respect was shown for each other; in doing so, happiness and contentment was achieved then, as it should be now.

The connecting of the Hair makes them one person; for happiness or contentment cannot be achieved without each other.

The Canyons are represented by the purples in the middle ground, where the people were created. These canyons are Sacred, and should be so treated at all times.

The Reservation is pictured to represent the land that is ours, treat it well.



The Reservation is our heritage and the heritage of our children yet unborn. Be good to our land and it will continue to be good to us.

The Sun is the symbol of life, without it nothing is possible – plants don't grow – there will be no life – nothing. The Sun also represents the dawn of the Hualapai people. Through hard work, determination and education, everything is possible and we are assured bigger and brighter days ahead.

The Tracks in the middle represent the coyote and other animals which were here before us.

The Green around the symbol are pine trees, representing our name Hualapai — PEOPLE OF THE TALL PINES —

HUALAPAI TRIBE OFFICE OF THE CHAIRPERSON

Sherry J. Parker *Chairperson*

P.O. Box 179 / 941 Hualapai Way • Peach Springs, Arizona 86434 (928) 769-2216

Shelton "Scott" Crozier Vice Chairman

June 6, 2023

VIA Email <u>Paawee.rivera@who.eop.gov</u> VIA Email Daron.t.carreiro@who.eop.gov

VIA Email Brenda mallory@ceq.eop.gov

VIA Email chris phalen@sinema.senate.gov (Sen. Krysten Sinema)

VIA Email paul babbitt@kelly.senate.gov (Sen. Mark Kelly)

VIA Email emma.reidy@mail.house.gov (Rep. Ruben Gallego)

VIA Email tracee.sutton@mail.house.gov (Rep. Greg Stanton)

VIA Email sarina.weiss@mail.house.gov (Rep. Raul Grijalva)

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC 20500

RE: Hualapai Tribe's Opposition to the Mining Regulatory Clarity Act

Dear President Biden, Senators and Representatives:

The Hualapai Tribe firmly opposes the Mining Regulatory Clarity Act, which represents an unprecedented giveaway of public lands to mining corporations. Under the bill, mining corporations would gain a near unlimited right to occupy as much public land as they wanted for their mining operations. The companies would gain the right to dump waste, dispose of toxic tailings, bulldoze roads, and construct pipelines across public lands, even on lands of deep cultural and ecological significance to the Hualapai Tribe. We urge you to oppose the legislation, which would exacerbate the harms caused by the mining industry.

We are especially concerned with this legislation because four key minerals that will be used for the energy transition -97% of nickel, 89% of copper, 79% of lithium, and 68% of cobalt - are

located within 35 miles of Native American Reservations. In addition, many existing and proposed mines are located on federal lands adjacent to tribal lands. The Tribe is very concerned with a lithium exploration project located on Bureau of Land Management lands directly adjacent to tribal lands in the Big Sandy Valley that threatens Ha'Kamwe, a sacred medicinal spring. In addition, numerous notice-level activities are occurring throughout the Sandy Valley for a variety of minerals.

The proposed legislation contains a series of provisions designed to undermine the Federal Government's authority to safeguard public lands. Under Section 2(e)(1)(B) of the Mining Regulatory Clarity Act, mining companies would receive a statutory right to permanently occupy and bury public lands under tons of toxic waste. Further Section 2(e)(1)(A) grants mining companies automatic rights-of-way for new pipelines, transmission lines, and roads across public lands – eliminating a central provision of the Federal Land Policy Management Act that requires mining companies to receive a permit for such uses just like every other industry operating on federal lands. The mining law of 1872 is already overly permissive- having caused disastrous consequences for our Indigenous communities, our health and our sacred sites, and this legislation would only increase those harms in the future.

The Mining Regulatory Clarity Act is poised to have devastating consequences on our ancestral lands and resources. The creation of tribal sacrifice zones in the name of the clean energy transition must stop. Indigenous communities use what are now federal public lands for resource collection, ceremonies, and other traditional cultural uses. This Administration has vowed to safeguard our cultural resources and to listen to tribes. The Mining Regulatory Clarity Act will impair our ability to use our ancestral lands forever and we ask that you reject it.

Sincerely,

Hury J. Parker Chairwoman