

16 April 2021

The Honorable Raul Grijalva,
Chairman, House Natural Resources Committee,
U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.,
USA.

Attn: Qay-liwh.Ammon@mail.house.gov

Support for H.R. 1884/S. 915, the Save Oak Flat Act

Dear Chairman Grijalva:

On behalf of London Mining Network, I am writing to express strong support for H.R. 1884/S. 915, the Save Oak Flat Act.

It is our belief that London-listed mining companies Rio Tinto and BHP, through their joint venture Resolution Copper Mining, LLC, would effectively destroy Oak Flat in southeastern Arizona if they develop their planned copper mine.

Members of London Mining Network have worked for years with communities around the world affected by the operations of both these companies. Both have long histories of causing serious environmental damage and social dislocation.

Our website contains a large amount of information about both companies.

A brief history of Rio Tinto's negative impacts can be found in a timeline at <https://londonminingnetwork.org/companies-in-focus-rio-tinto/>. The most recent summary of concerns about the company can be found at <https://londonminingnetwork.org/2021/04/rio-tinto-hollow-t/> together with a report about its recent shareholders' meeting, <https://londonminingnetwork.org/2021/04/evasion-and-hypocrisy-the-2021-rio-tinto-plc-agm/>, where the company's responses to community concerns were far from adequate.

London Mining Network produced a summary of concerns about BHP in advance of the company's annual shareholder meetings last September. This can be found at <https://londonminingnetwork.org/2020/09/bhp-fine-words-foul-play/>. A report on those meetings can be found at <https://londonminingnetwork.org/2020/10/hidden-in-plain-sight-bhps-2020-agms/>. A critique of the company's responses to concerns raised about its operations in Peru can be found at <https://londonminingnetwork.org/2021/02/bhp-and-antamina/> and a similar critique of its responses to concerns about operations in Chile at



<https://londonminingnetwork.org/2021/02/bhps-denial-of-responsibility-for-impacts-in-chile-does-not-satisfy-its-critics/>.

Just over a year ago, London Mining Network published a report, *Cut and Run*, about the way in which both Rio Tinto and BHP's operations have created catastrophic environmental damage and social dislocation in Pacific Rim countries and then been abandoned, leaving others to deal with their legacy. This report can be found at <https://londonminingnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/EMBARGOED-Cut-and-run.-How-Britains-top-two-mining-companies-have-wrecked-ecosystems.pdf>.

On the basis of our experience with both companies, we hope that Congress will protect Oak Flat from the Resolution Copper project. Our opinion is that both companies' histories suggest the need for extreme caution.

Yours sincerely,



Richard Solly,
Co-ordinator,

