

RESOLUTION OF THE TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
(In Opposition to the SunZia Transmission Line Through the San Pedro River Valley)

RESOLUTION NO. 24-012

1 **WHEREAS,** the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council is authorized to exercise its inherent
2 powers "by providing laws, ordinances or resolutions . . . to promote, protect and
3 provide for public health, peace, morals, education and general welfare of the
4 Tohono O'odham Nation and its members." (Tohono O'odham Const. Art. VI, §
5 1(c)(2)); and

6 **WHEREAS,** it is the "responsibility of the Tohono O'odham [Legislative] Council to use all
7 practical means, consistent with other essential considerations of the Tohono
8 O'odham national policy, to improve and coordinate its plans, functions,
9 programs and resources to the end that the Tohono O'odham Nation may . . .
10 preserve important historic, cultural and natural aspects of Tohono O'odham
11 national heritage." (Tohono O'odham Const. Art. XVIII, § 2(d)); and

12 **WHEREAS,** the cultural, religious, spiritual, ancestral, and historic identity of the Tohono
13 O'odham Nation ("Nation") and its Members is inextricably linked to the San
14 Pedro River Valley. Many Members of the Nation can directly trace their ancestral
15 heritage to the Sobaipuri O'odham as well as the Hohokam who lived in the San
16 Pedro River Valley; and

17 **WHEREAS,** the BLM, without conducting meaningful consultation with the Nation, or other
18 tribes that also maintain a cultural affinity to the Valley, has approved the right-
19 of-way for the SunZia transmission line through the San Pedro River Valley so that
20 it will destroy/impact numerous sites that are of cultural and historic
21 significance to the Nation and its members; and

22 **WHEREAS,** the construction of the SunZia transmission line has already impacted
23 significant cultural and historic sites and human remains; and

24 **WHEREAS,** the Nation has joined with the San Carlos Apache Tribe, the Hopi Tribe, the Zuni
25 Tribe, Archeology Southwest, and the Center for Biological Diversity in opposition
26 to the ongoing destruction of culturally significant and historic properties in the
27 San Pedro River Valley, including Traditional Cultural Properties as defined in
28 the National Historic Preservation Act ("NHPA"); and

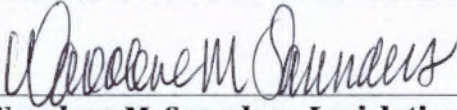
29 **WHEREAS,** the Appropriations Committee previously authorized Dentons to lobby for the
30 Nation's interests in opposition to the SunZia transmission line, and the Cultural
31 Preservation Committee, the Appropriations Committee, and the Domestic
32 Affairs Committee have reviewed this Resolution and recommend its approval by
33 the Legislative Council;

1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council strongly**
2 **opposes the placement of the SunZia transmission line through the San Pedro**
3 **River Valley;**

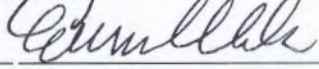
4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Council supports any actions that the Nation can**
5 **take to oppose the continued destruction of sites that are of cultural and historic**
6 **significance in and around the San Pedro River Valley, including, but not limited**
7 **to, continued consultation, lobbying and/or litigation.**

8 **The foregoing Resolution was passed by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council on the 16TH**
9 **day of JANUARY 2024 at a meeting at which a quorum was present with a vote of 3,263.3 FOR; -**
10 **0- AGAINST; -0- NOT VOTING; and [04] ABSENT, pursuant to the powers vested in the Council by**
11 **Art. VI, § 1(c)(2) Tohono O'odham Const. Art. XVIII, § 2(d) of the Constitution of the Tohono**
12 **O'odham Nation, adopted by the Tohono O'odham Nation on January 18, 1986; and approved by**
13 **the Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs (Operations) on March 6, 1986, pursuant**
14 **to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat.984).**

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17 **TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

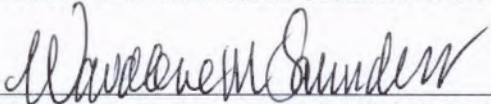
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21 **Wavalene M. Saunders, Legislative Chairwoman**
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23 28 day of January, 2024

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26 **ATTEST:**

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29 **Evonne Wilson, Legislative Secretary**
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31 19 day of January, 2024

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33 **Said Resolution was submitted for approval to the office of the Chairman of the Tohono**
34 **O'odham Nation on the 28 day of January, 2024 at 12:55 o'clock, 1 .m.,**
35 **pursuant to the provisions of Section 5 of Article VII of the Constitution and will become**
36 **effective upon his approval or upon his failure to either approve or disapprove it within 48**
37 **hours of submittal.**

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39 **TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

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43 **Wavalene M. Saunders, Legislative Chairwoman**
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APPROVED

on the 22 day of January, 2024

DISAPPROVED

at 9:04 o'clock, P. .m.

Verlon M. Jose
VERLON M. JOSE, CHAIRMAN
TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION

Returned to the Legislative Secretary on the 23 day of

January, 2024, at 3:21 o'clock, P. .m.

Deunnapan for:
Evoone Wilson, Legislative Secretary

ACTION: IN OPPOSITION TO THE SUNZIA TRANSMISSION LINE THROUGH THE SAN PEDRO RIVER VALLEY

MOVED: COUNCILMAN TIMOTHY L. JOAQUIN

SECOND: COUNCILMAN JESSE NAVARRO

DATE: JANUARY 16, 2024

DISTRICT	LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES	# OF VOTES	FOR	AGAINST	NOT VOTING	ABSENT
BABOQUIVARI 394.2	1. LEANDER MASE (Francine Schooling) 2. JESSE NAVARRO (Alberta J. Ray)	197.1 197.1	X X			
CHUKUT KUK 354.7	1. VIVIAN JUAN-SAUNDERS (Cornelius Antone) 2. MARLAKAY HENRY ()	177.35 177.35	X X			X
GUACHI 282.7	1. VICTORIA HOBBS (Tonya L. Joaquin) 2. TIMOTHY L. JOAQUIN (Jerome L. Joaquin)	141.35 141.35	X X			
GU VO 276.0	1. DALLAS LEWIS () 2. LESLIE LUNA (Grace Manuel)	138.0 138.0	X X			X
HICKIWAN 220.5	1. DELMA M. GARCIA () 2. LOUIS R. LOPEZ (<i>Absent</i>) (Loretta A. Ortega) (<i>Present</i>)	110.25 110.25	X X			
PISINEMO 236.2	1. EDWARD D. MANUEL (Monica Morgan) 2. PAMELA J. BENAVIDEZ (Nora J. Ruelas)	118.1 118.1	X X			
SAN LUCY 257.6	1. ROGER MANUEL (<i>Absent</i>) (Christina Andrews) (<i>Present</i>) 2. GLORIA M. RAMIREZ (<i>Absent</i>) (Lorraine M. Eiler) (<i>Present</i>)	128.8 128.8	X X			X
SAN XAVIER 244.5	1. JANICE FELIX () 2. DANIEL L.A. PRESTON III ()	122.25 122.25	X X			X
SCHUK TOAK 191.8	1. DELISA M. RAMON (Sharon A. Francisco) 2. THEORIA CAMPILLO (Rebecca Ann Valentine)	95.9 95.9	X X			
SELLS 558.0	1. EVELYN JUAN-MANUEL (Arvada Liston) 2. JANET B. ELEANDO ()	279.0 279.0	X X			
SIF OIDAK 247.1	1. LUCINDA ALLEN (Francis Homewytewa) 2. WAVALENE M. SAUNDERS (Mary Lopez)	123.55 123.55	X X			
	TOTAL	3,263.30	3,263.3	-0-	-0-	[04]