

Conversation Contents

Fwd: TRANSCRIPT: Commr. [REDACTED] on Bear Ears, Dec. 19, 2016

Gov. Herbert Staffer <[REDACTED]@utah.gov>

From: Gov. Herbert Staffer <[REDACTED]@utah.gov>
Sent: Wed Dec 21 2016 08:33:17 GMT-0700 (MST)
To: Nicole Buffa <[REDACTED]@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Fwd: TRANSCRIPT: Commr. [REDACTED] on Bear Ears, Dec. 19, 2016

Thanks again for all your time. I'm not kidding when I say you're an amazing example of a public servant. I have the utmost respect for you. Thank you for time and attention.

On a somewhat related note, and for what it's worth, I was asked recently to forward this to you:

<https://www.facebook.com/senatormikelee/videos/1339805726051117/>

Gov. Herbert Staffer

Director of Federal Affairs
Governor Gary Herbert

TRANSCRIPT: Commr. [REDACTED] on Bear Ears, Dec. 19, 2016

Brothers and sisters, I stand here before you as a Native American woman, the first elected woman in San Juan County. I am here today to tell you that my constituents do not want a national monument in San Juan County, because it's just another federal overreach with empty promises.

As a Native American, we understand what broken treaties mean and broken promises; we've lived it for the last 200 years. So what makes you think, President Obama, that you think you're doing the right thing? All you're doing is breaking up families using divide and conquer among my brothers and sisters, San Juan County residents, the State of Utah.

Your legacy I hope we can soon forget because you're not doing it for the local people. So I'm here today to tell you that Grandma [REDACTED] Grandma [REDACTED] they shed tears because this is

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a place of reverent spirituality where they gather medicinal plants, wood to heat their home and cook, hunt; you're taking that away. There is no such a thing as a special proclamation that can be done by the president. This is a Congressional authority that has to happen.

You've been lied to by environmental groups. Environmental groups, I'm here to tell you: stop romanticizing and stop pretending. And stop pretending that you are doing this for Native American people. I've seen it time and time again. It is wrong and I'm tired of you using my people, talking for them, it is wrong that you do this. Come to San Juan County where we still have over 700 miles of dirt road and high high school dropout rates, unemployment. Put your mind and money to better use instead of making people work against one another. That's wrong.

I want to tell you about trust. There is no trust. We as Native Americans do not trust the federal government. And so President Obama, why should you be any different? I'm here to tell you to look in the eye of Grandma [REDACTED] and to the eye of Grandma [REDACTED] and you tell them that you're doing this in their best interest. You're not. You're limiting access and you're lying to them.

So today I want to thank everyone for being here, stewards of San Juan County and the [REDACTED] family, the [REDACTED] family and San Juan County residents, the State of Utah, the governor, lieutenant governor, commissioners and Utah delegation, state and congressional level, titleholders, I want to let you know that at a personal level it's disheartening, it makes you want to cry. It hurts. Emotionally, spiritually, physically, mentally, it has split families as I said. It has split San Juan County members. So this national monument, all it's going to represent is a division. It's not going to be a one mind, one voice, one heart movement. So today I'm going to tell you in this press conference, 'no national monument.'

Thank you.

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