

June 22, 2015

Mr. Wendsler Nosie
San Carlos Apache Councilman
PO Box 0
San Carlos, AZ 85550

Dear Councilman Nosie:

I have just read your comments in the Indian Country Today story "Oak Flat Protesters Plan March on Washington to Protest Apache Land Grab," and I am concerned by your statement that Resolution Copper has not extended an offer to sit down and talk with members of the San Carlos Apache Tribal Council.

I can assure you, we want nothing more than to engage in an open dialogue with Tribal leadership, so we can more clearly understand the issues and work in partnership to resolve them.

For more than a decade, I and other Resolution project directors and members of our team have reached out to you personally and to other members of the Council with numerous requests to meet. While Council members have never taken us up on our offers to sit down together, we are still hopeful that this can happen at some point, and we remain committed to opening lines of communication with the Tribe.

In the absence of the opportunity for dialogue we update the Council twice a year on the project, our recent activities and our future plans. In addition, we have invited Council members to community meetings, where the public has a chance to share their questions and concerns with our team.

Because we have not been successful in meeting directly with Tribal leadership, we publish open letters on the issues of concern for the San Carlos Apache in local newspapers and send these letters directly to every member of the Tribe.

I hope this clears up any misperceptions about our willingness to talk with you and other members of the Tribal Council. I understand that you and Vice Chairman Eptison have asked to be excluded from further meeting invitations from Resolution Copper, but I remain hopeful that, in some way, we can open the lines of communication.

In the meantime, we will continue our efforts to communicate with members of the Tribe and with the Tribal Council as appropriate, and we remain committed to developing the Resolution project in a manner that is respectful to Native Americans and Tribal sovereignty, that protects the area's unique environmental and cultural history and that creates sustainable benefits for the entire community, including the San Carlos Apache Tribe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Taplin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and a long, sweeping underline.

Andrew Taplin
Project Director

cc: Terry Rambler, Chairman
Tao Eptison, Vice Chairman
Alicia Talgo-Cadmus, Bylas Councilwoman
Jonathan Kitcheyan, Bylas Councilman
Allred Pike, Bylas Councilman
Bernadette Goode, Seven-Mile Wash Councilwoman
Mitch Hoffman, Seven-Mile Wash Councilman
Simon Hooke, Gilson Wash Councilman
Valesquez Sneezy, Gilson Wash Councilman
Fred Ferreira, Peridot Councilman