



THE NAVAJO NATION

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT

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Navajo President Joe Shirley, Jr., issues statement on re-hearing of San Francisco Peaks case in Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr., today issued this statement on the re-hearing of the San Francisco Peaks appeal in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in Pasadena, Calif.

“The Navajo people are trying to do everything we can to save self, and the Peaks is one of our strengths. It is our essence. When you decide to contaminate it with reclaimed wastewater, with filth, to make snow, that doesn’t help my way of life. That doesn’t help when I talk to my children and grandchildren about the importance of our way of life, and the pride that is to be taken because of our way of life.

“To Native people, there are no compromises to saving self. When our ceremonies go, and when our herbs go, there are no compromises left to be made.

“Today, the Navajo people will continue to pray. We will pray that the original decision of the Ninth Circuit stands. Our prayers will continue to go up to the Creator. We will pray for our sacred places, for our sacred ways of life, and for the preservation of our culture despite the opposition that comes in the guise of Federal decisions.”

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– Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr.

On Nov. 30, President Shirley and Navajo Nation Council Speaker Lawrence T. Morgan issued a letter that called upon Navajos, Native people, and others to join the Navajo Nation in a National and International Day of Prayer for *Dook’o’osliid*, the Navajos’ sacred mountain of the west.

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