



ASSOCIATED GOVERNMENTS
OF NORTHWEST COLORADO

RESOLUTION
AGNC 24-1

A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATED GOVERNMENTS OF NORTHWEST COLORADO
(AGNC) TO OBJECT TO THE DESIGNATION OF THE DOLORES CANYON AS A
NATIONAL MONUMENT

WHEREAS, the Dolores Canyon is a region of significant historical, cultural, and natural importance to the counties of Mesa, Moffat, Rio Blanco, and Garfield, which are represented by the Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado (AGNC), the Council of Governments for Colorado Planning and Management Region 11; and

WHEREAS, AGNC also serves as the economic development district for the aforementioned counties along with Routt County; and

WHEREAS, AGNC has associate members in Delta, Montrose, and Grand Counties, which also benefit from and contribute to the regional policies and initiatives governed by AGNC; and

WHEREAS, the communities within these counties have managed and maintained the land of Dolores Canyon, respecting sustainable use and conservation principles for generations; and

WHEREAS, the initiative to designate the Dolores Canyon as a national monument was not driven by the local communities, thereby not reflecting the local consensus or the preferred management strategies of those directly affected; and

WHEREAS, the designation of the Dolores Canyon as a national monument may impose federal restrictions that could hinder local management efforts, disrupt economic activities, including but not limited to, farming, ranching, and resource development, and limit recreational access and usage enjoyed by the local population; and

WHEREAS, the communities directly impacted by this potential designation lack the necessary infrastructure and resources to support the significant influx of tourism that such a designation would likely bring, potentially straining local services and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the potential mining of uranium and lithium within the Dolores Canyon region represents a critical matter of national security, particularly considering the current state of global affairs, which may be adversely affected by this monument designation; and

WHEREAS, AGNC believes that the best management of the Dolores Canyon is achieved through local stewardship which is attuned to the specific needs and characteristics of the region; and

WHEREAS, AGNC supports the continued use of the Dolores Canyon lands in a manner that balances ecological sustainability with the economic and recreational needs of the local community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that AGNC formally objects to the designation of the Dolores Canyon as a national monument and urges President Biden, federal agencies and legislative bodies to consider the adverse impacts such designation would have on local governance, economy, access, and national security;

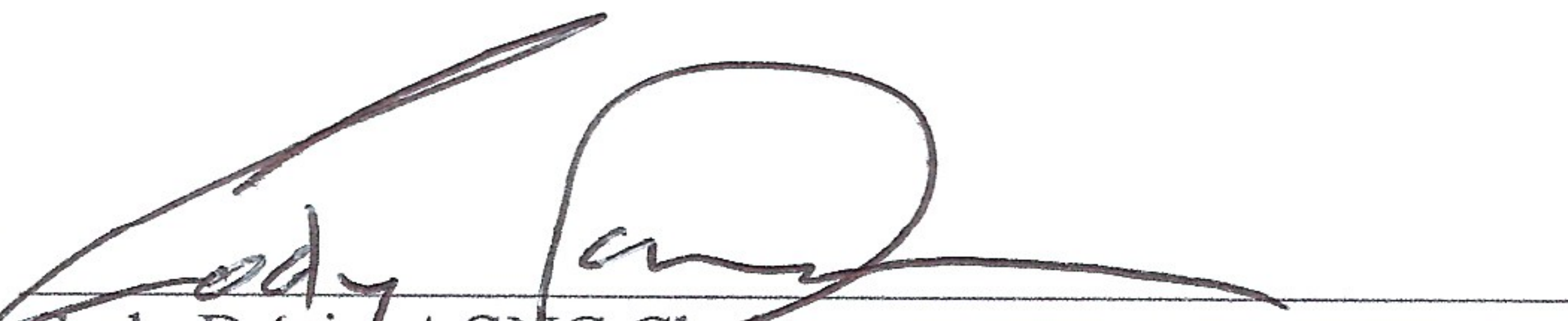
FURTHERMORE, AGNC requests that this resolution be acknowledged by state and federal officials, emphasizing the strong opposition from the local communities, and seeks their support in maintaining the management of the Dolores Canyon under local stewardship.

DATED this 15th day of May 2024.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF ASSOCIATED GOVERNMENTS OF
NORTHWEST COLORADO, STATE OF COLORADO

By:


Cody Davis, AGNC Chairman