

September 22, 2011

The Honorable Ken Salazar
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar,

Arizona's national parks and monuments are breathtaking, and the cornerstones of our Western way of life. They're also powerful engines of Arizona's economy.

That's why, as business leaders, we support and appreciate your announcement of a six-month extension on the temporary moratorium on new uranium mining around the Grand Canyon, and your support for a potential 20-year ban.

Thousands of small businesses in our state depend on tourism dollars generated by these wild, scenic, and historic destinations, including the Grand Canyon.

As per the U.S. Interior Department's new report, the 437 million tourism and recreational visits to Interior-managed lands nationally in 2010 supported more than 388,000 jobs nationwide and contributed over \$44 billion in economic activity. **In fact, the Grand Canyon alone drives nearly \$700 million in annual economic activity in northern Arizona!** Many of these tourism and recreation-dependent jobs were in rural communities, including **8,000 jobs in Arizona.**

When President Theodore Roosevelt established Grand Canyon National Monument in 1908, he demonstrated tremendous foresight, protecting an inspiring place that would be enjoyed by people from all over the world, and would serve as the "golden-egg" of Arizona's tourism industry for more than 100 years.

We're pleased to see you following in President Roosevelt's footsteps: our way of life and our economy depends on it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephen Verkamp". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Stephen Verkamp
President, Verkamp's Inc.
(Curio store opened in 1906 and in 2008 became
Verkamp's Visitor Center at the Grand Canyon)

Arizona Tourism Alliance

Sedona Chamber of Commerce

Arizona Hotel & Lodging Association

Southern Arizona Green Chamber of Commerce

Arizona Association of Bed & Breakfast Inns

Distinctive Bed & Breakfasts of Northern AZ

Arizona Corporation Commissioner Paul Newman

Lynne McGinley, Owner
Camelback Adventures
Scottsdale, AZ

Christy Fritz, Owner
C. Fritz Design Services
Prescott, AZ

Alexandra Thevinin, Owner
AZ Raft Adventures
Flagstaff, AZ

Laurie Staveley, Owner
Canyon Explorations
Flagstaff, AZ

Richard Svendsen, Owner
Starlight Pines Bed & Breakfast
Flagstaff, AZ

Gordon Watkins, Owner
Inn at 410
Flagstaff, AZ

Ben Murphy, Owner
All Star Grand Canyon Tours
Flagstaff, AZ

Tom Taylor, Owner
A Shooting Star Inn
Flagstaff, AZ

Paul and Doreen Hedger, Owner
Indian Hill Bed & Breakfast
Tucson, AZ

John Higgins and Steffi Engel, Owners
Desert Trails Bed and Breakfast
Tucson, AZ

David and Rosemary Brown, Owners
Hacienda del Desierto Bed and Breakfast
Tucson, AZ

Pattie Bell, Owner
El Rancho Merlita Bed and Breakfast
(Ranch House Inn at)
Tucson, AZ

Greg and Teresa Komachko , Owners
Three Swans Bed and Breakfast
Tucson, AZ

John Yerger, Owner
Adventure Birding
Tucson, AZ

Laurel and Richard Dunn, Owners
The England House Bed and Breakfast
Flagstaff, AZ

Trish Rensink, Owner
The Bellewether Group
Flagstaff, AZ

Lisa Lamberson, Owner
Mountain Sports
Flagstaff, AZ

Jim Babbitt, President
Babbitt's Mercantile, Inc.
Flagstaff, AZ

Adolpho Rios, Owner
Bunna Coffee and Tea Market
Tempe, AZ

Andrew Heath, President
American Solar Hydrogen, Inc.
Tucson, AZ

Ronald Proctor, Proprietor

Proctor Design LLC
Tucson, AZ

Clay Cox, Owner
Cox Ph.D., Inc
Tucson, AZ

Peter Shifflett
Quaesta Instruments LLC
Tucson, AZ

Dave Ewoldt, Founder
Coalition of Mutual Endeavor
Tucson, AZ

Vincent Pawlowski, Owner
Upski Enterprises
Tucson, AZ

Katya Peterson, Owner
Cele Peterson's Store
Tucson, AZ

Pierre Landau, President
Polymap Wireless
Tucson, AZ

Russell Lowes, Owner
In the Black Business Services
Tucson, AZ

Melissa Black, President
Solar Gain
Tucson, AZ

Robert Bulechek, Proprietor
Energy Management
Tucson, AZ

David Schaller, Owner
Westmoreland Associates
Tucson, AZ

Mark Flynn, Owner
Flynn Electric
Tucson, AZ

Jim Hook, Owner
Adobe Rose Inn
Tucson, AZ

Villery Joseph Mitchell, Owner
Angel Light Feathers Sacred Pathways
Sedona, AZ
Buffalo Don, Owner
Buffalo Don Corral
Sedona, AZ

Steve Aysheh, Owner
Jolie Gallery
Sedona, AZ

Mitch Waldberg, Owner
Global Franchise Sales and Holding
Tempe, AZ

Janet Bullet, Owner
A Sunset Chateau
Sedona, AZ

Steve Clark
Performance Suspensions
Phoenix, AZ

Shane Stewart
Stewart Solutions, Inc.
Gilbert, AZ

Al Lundeen
Adjustments in Living
Phoenix, AZ

Steven Schmidt
Steve's Espresso
Tempe, AZ

Sue Gilbert
Territory Manager
Aveda Services, Inc.