



Traditional O'odham Leaders of the O'odham Territories
Cu:Wi I-gersk Communities
Sonora, Mexico

We the O'odham (the People) the Original people of these lands, have the sole authority over these lands mandated by the Creator. We oppose the proposed chemical waste dumpsite in our homelands and any the on-going and future destruction of O'odham Lands. We continue to oppose these types of projects that are initiated without notification and communication to the original people of these lands.

We oppose the destruction of the natural habitat of this entire ecosystem, plant life, animal life, waterway and mountains. The effects of solvent chemicals are fatal to all life and will impact future generations of human life, animal life and plant life. By our O'odham Him'dag, our principles, the O'odham way of life, maintains all life is connected and any destruction impacts the entire O'odham culture and very existence of O'odham and all life.

We oppose this outright threat to our O'odham way of life by storage of hazardous chemical in our sacred lands and near our scared ceremonial grounds. An historic example, of the Hecla Mining Company, unprotected cyanide leaching ponds leak in Quitovac. An absent monitored system and very lenient enforcement of environmental policies places all life at great risk. As O'odham we maintain our legacy through our oral history, as the original peoples of these lands. Through our teachings by our Elder Brother I'toi we maintain our inherent way of life including conducting our ceremonies and making offerings to the lands and the sea, as well as using all life in the region as our food source, medicinal source from the plant and animal life which is all face irreparable danger.

We demand the strongest implementation of existing environmental and cultural protection laws to stop this project and demand protection of O'odham and all life in this region. The planned devastation of the region is in total neglect to humanity and the natural life. Environmental ethics have been disregard without regard to the future generations of the O'odham communities and surrounding communities.

We hereby submit this statement to all concerned.