



The Bears Ears Intertribal Coalition, composed of the Navajo, Hopi, Uintah and Ouray Ute, Ute Mountain Ute, and Zuni Tribal Governments strongly oppose Senator Mike Lee's amendment to the Energy Bill (S. 2012) which seeks to prevent the designation of a national monument for the Bears Ears cultural landscape in southeast Utah.

Our purpose as a historic Coalition of Native American Tribes is to request a national monument designation for the 1.9 million acres of federal public lands around the Bears Ears Buttes under the Antiquities Act of 1906. Bears Ears is not just a beautiful place; it is a vibrant cultural landscape that is home to more than 100,000 sacred cultural sites including ancient villages, cliff dwellings, rock art, and the gravesites of our ancestors.

The Coalition's proposal originates from the creativity and the intellectual base of Indian Country, and from the hearts and souls of our tribal leaders who practice our cultures and traditions daily that stem from our creation stories since time immemorial. Our assembly as a directly arose from requests made of us by our tribal members, many of whom are residents of Utah, when local land use discussions excluded the valuable opinions of Native Americans whose ancestral ties to this land date back thousands of years.

Mr. Lee's amendment is a transparent attempt to undermine the sovereign request of our Nations to the President to permanently protect Bears Ears. In addition, Mr. Lee's amendment disrespects the wishes of the over 270 tribes and the 66% of Utahns that support our call for protection of a Bears Ears National Monument. Mr. Lee has already failed once this year in trying to tack on a similar amendment to the Senate energy bill. Please vote no on Senator Lee's amendment [SA 3447].