

**Nondalton Tribal Council**  
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September 20, 2016

The Honorable Don Young  
United States House of Representatives  
2314 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Young:

The Nondalton Tribal Council respectfully requests that you vote "no" during the House Committee on Natural Resources markup of H.R. 5780, the Utah Public Lands Initiative on September 21 and 22, 2016.

Most important, the bill proposes to take more than 100,000 acres of the Ute Indian Tribe's Reservation lands for the State of Utah to develop oil and gas resources. This modern day Indian land grab cannot be allowed to stand. The National Congress of American Indians was so shocked by this proposal that a resolution in opposition was approved just based on a discussion draft of the bill. Please see attached.

H.R. 5780 sets a dangerous precedent and would roll back federal Indian policy back to the late 1800's. In addition to taking lands within the Tribe's Reservation the bill creates utility corridors, designates wild and scenic rivers limiting the Tribe's water rights, includes local governments in the management of lands and resources, and transfers federal rights-of-way to the state. All within the Reservation.

Although the bill is promoted as "a local solution to difficult federal land management issues in eastern Utah," in fact, much of the bill is built on the back of the Tribe's Reservation. Please vote "no" on this dangerous bill.

Sincerely,

  
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William Evanoff, President