



To Bryan West, Project Manager,

This public comment is in opposition of the proposed project, "Sandia Peak Ski Area Mountain Coaster #56985." After reading about the Cibola National Forest considering a Sandia Peak Area Mountain Roller Coaster project to implement a "passive recreation experience," my first thoughts were, is there or is there going to be an associated EA or EIS? Then, finding out that the CNF is also considering to categorically exclude this project from any NEPA process because of "minimal amount of new disturbances" is a huge concern. Whether this project proposal is within the Special Use Permit boundaries of Sandia Peak, the outer boundaries could experience adverse impact to this type of recreation.

As a tribal member of Sandia Pueblo and the Director for Pueblo Action Alliance I strongly urge the Forest Service and CNF to consult meaningful with the Pueblo of Sandia as well with the greater Albuquerque community. Our Pueblo has experienced a spiritual loss in the "spirit" of outdoor recreation when we lost our ceremonial rights and land claim to the Sandia Mountain range during the late 1990's. With this newly proposed development, there needs to be a cumulative impact understanding and how this will affect the mountain and forest area in the long run. This type of recreation would bring an increased amount of traffic to the peak and could have adverse environmental impacts to the entire watershed and wildlife. Also, an increase in noise pollution, increased litter, potential vandalism, potential trespassing on tribal lands and other various impacts because of increased recreation and visitation.

Most importantly, this mountain is sacred to the Pueblo of Sandia and it's community members and it isn't known whether the tribe was consulted about this project in a trustful and meaningful way.

Again, I strongly urge the CNF and USFS to conduct meaningful tribal consultation with the Pueblo of Sandia and as Pueblo Action Alliance, a Pueblo Environmental Justice Organization, we are voicing our opposition to this newly proposed development as we feel it is not necessary to complete the outdoor recreation experience nor will it be fruitful for the environment or the watershed in the long run.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julia Bernal". The signature is stylized and fluid, with a large initial 'J' and 'B'.

Julia Bernal
Sandia Pueblo Tribal Member
Alliance Director, Pueblo Action Alliance