

## UNITED STATES ACKNOWLEDGES THEIR ERROR IN FORECASTING THE ISSUANCE OF FINAL EIS ON OAK FLAT

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The United States gave notice to the Ninth Circuit yesterday in *Apache Stronghold v. United States* taking back its attorney's statement during oral argument that the United States would issue its Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) "this spring" or "early summer." The United States now says it "has not yet identified a timeframe for completing its review."

Naelyn Pike of Apache Stronghold, regarding the Governments actions and the support for Saving Oak Flat, "I stand here today thankful to all of our supporters. The thousands of people past and present who have fought tirelessly to see this moment. The destruction of Oak Flat is no doubt a human rights violation and environmental negligence done by not only Resolution Copper but the United States Government. What we are witnessing is the United States Government acknowledging that the Environmental Impact Statement, once published will transfer over sacred and holy Oak Flat to a foreign mining company to be destroyed forever."

"This is a step forward to continuing the protection of the future generations. We must continue this momentum because our livelihood is at stake. As an Apache female standing here today I will fight to the end so that my children and our nation's children will have clean air, clean water, and the right to freedom of religion. I believe through unity that people of all walks of life have one common goal, the survival of humankind. So, the fight still continues...