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DECLARATION OF PRISCILLA ESWONIA

I, Priscilla Eswonia, declare as follows:

I am a full blooded Mohave Indian living on the Colorado River Indian 1. tribes located near Parker, Arizona. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein. If called as a witness, I could and would competently testify to the matters stated herein.

- 2. I am providing testimony in regards to the Blythe Genesis Solar Project just thirteen miles west of the city of Blythe, California.
- My great grandfather lived in the area known as Blythe, California along with his family and other Yuman people such as the Kumeeyaay, Quechan and Maricopa Indians, but they knew this was Mohave land. My great grandmother who was known as Chacha was from the Blythe area also along with her family also. They lived and hunted in the area of the solar project, then one day the United States Government made them either go to the reservation or move on to another area. We were removed from our traditional land with no cause, leaving the area open to the non-Indian.
- The excavation or the disturbance of our traditional artifacts can cause 4. sickness to our people, it can make them go crazy, lose their sense of being. We still believe in our cultural and religious beliefs, we still believe that these disturbances are taboo.
- 5. Traditional songs such as Pipa, Lightning, Deer, Cane or Birdsongs have long been used for ceremonial purposes to put away our people, these songs have been given to us by our Creator Matavilya. We occupied this area, so we know we put our people away in these areas, this areas cannot be disturbed as harm will come to our people not in the flesh but based on spiritual belief.
- My father's sister Amy Welsh talked of this area, telling us stories of how 6. our people lived and moved about on the land, there were no fences or reservation but we roamed the land freely, because it was ours....how beautiful, I thought.

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7. We know we did cleansing ceremonies around our river, especially during war and funerals while fasting for days. Our runners would also cleanse themselves after they ran to other communities to tell of death or celebrations. Ceremonies such as Dance of the Dead were also performed in that area as the Mohave and Quechan lived together, sworn cousins forever.

8. Finally, I know that as a child never to disturb these areas as they are not for use to bother or something you play with. We knew that these things can harm and even kill you, because there is the spirit world that still thrives and is alive and well. The solar project continues to destroy our history and our remains of our ancestors, that needs to stop, leave them alone.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Priscilla Eswonia

Executed 5/01, 2012, at Parker, Arizona.

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