

## Erin Nelson

---

**From:** Linda Richmond <sjriver@frontiernet.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 6:00 PM  
**To:** Erin Nelson  
**Subject:** Comments on Petition to Disconnect from the Town of Bluff

To Mayor Leppanen and Town of Bluff Council Members

I would like to submit my opinion that the proposed disconnect by Utah School Institutional Trust Lands (SITLA) from the Town of Bluff be denied.

I think SITLA could be a valuable partner with the town, going forward.

SITLA has a history of protecting prehistoric archaeological sites in San Juan County, e.g., Cave Towers and Coalbed Canyon. SITLA has also participated in a number of other projects around the state that appear very beneficial.

Several archaeological, paleontological, and historic sites, hiking trails, springs, and rare plants are located within the SITLA property that is being proposed for disconnection.

I understand there is also a possibility of construction of a solar farm on this parcel. This project could be constructed and operated in a way that would mitigate the negative impacts that might be present. I think this project would be beneficial in promoting the idea that both SITLA and the Town of Bluff recognize the importance of adopting alternative energy sources.

There are many opportunities for collaboration between the Town of Bluff and SITLA.

Is there a possibility of amending the petition to allow, for example, only the Acton property and minimal acreage of adjacent SITLA and BLM lands to be disconnected? This, or other workable solutions might be easily negotiated.

Respectfully,

Linda Richmond

PO Box 16

Bluff, UT 84512