



# United States Department of the Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK  
P.O. BOX 129  
GRAND CANYON, ARIZONA 86023-0129

IN REPLY REFER TO:

L30 (GRCA 8211)

NOV 01 2011

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

The Honorable Greg Bryan  
Mayor of Tusayan  
P.O. Box 709, Tusayan, AZ 86023

Dear Mayor Bryan:

Please accept this letter that includes additional comments on annexation and rezoning applications submitted by the Stilo Development Group USA, LP (Stilo), to the Tusayan Town Council (Council). These comments are in addition to formal comments submitted by the National Park Service in a letter dated September 1, 2011 (copy attached), and those I made on behalf of the National Park Service at a public hearing held by the Council in Tusayan on October 26, 2011 (formal remarks attached).

As I stated at the public hearing, the National Park Service has serious concerns about this project and the potential impacts and demands that a project of this size and scope could place on park resources, visitor experience, and an aging park infrastructure.

This letter and my previous remarks outline numerous concerns, most of which we do not feel have been addressed adequately by the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Council, staff, or the developer. Of particular concern is water. Future development, especially development with intensive uses such as residential communities, spas, conference centers, restaurants, hotels and other retail/hospitality development will be dependent on an adequate water supply. Additionally, the development of a water storage distribution system will become increasingly important for non-potable uses and fire suppression as new development occurs. Resources in this area are in greatest jeopardy from depletions and contamination to ground water, seeps and springs, as well as alterations to cave and karst features.

In the Town of Tusayan's comments on the proposed uranium withdrawal environmental impact statement, dated April 15, 2011 (copy attached), the Council acknowledged concern for water use and possible contamination from mining activities. Development of the magnitude proposed would place similar demands on a fragile aquifer system. Of equal concern to us is that of maintaining a high quality visitor experience which includes an experience free from congestion, crowding, cars, preservation of night skies and soundscapes. As we have done with implementation of our General Management Plan, separating people from cars and removing noise and vehicular congestion has been of paramount concern. We have put these concerns into practice with the design of the Visitor Center area which included

TAKE PRIDE<sup>®</sup>  
IN AMERICA 

