



KRIS MAYES
Attorney General

Office of the Attorney General
EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

Kimberly Allen Dang, Chief Executive Officer
Kinder Morgan
1001 Louisiana St., Suite 1000
Houston, TX 77002

Dear Ms. Dang,

I am writing to you regarding the ongoing and deeply troubling dispute between your company and the homeowners in the Chino Valley, Arizona community known as Haystack Ranch. In the event you are unaware of this dispute please refer the 12News news story published last week.¹

Ever since your company proposed the construction and operation of a compressor station in Chino Valley, the Haystack Ranch property owners have voiced their opposition to your company's preferred site, which is just ~0.3 miles from the closest residence in their community. Instead, the homeowners in this small, rural community have exercised their rights as citizens to speak with Kinder-Morgan representatives and federal and state regulators regarding their simple request that your company site the station on a company-approved alternative site approximately one mile further away from their homes.

It has come to my attention that, during a meeting with community members on the siting issue, your Senior Vice President for Public Affairs, Mr. Allen Fore, made a statement that was regarded as a 'veiled threat' by persons present from the Haystack Ranch residential community. During the exchange, a Haystack Ranch community member asked Mr. Fore if there still exist companies with a moral compass. Mr. Fore responded:

"Listen, if we didn't have a moral compass, I wouldn't be sitting here. I would tell you to go pound sand, and we'll ram this down your throat to the federal government. Okay. That's what we could do."

¹"'Veiled threat': Audio of Kinder Morgan executive prompts allegations by Arizona homeowners," 12News, (November 13, 2025) <https://www.12news.com/article/news/local/arizona/veiled-threat-audio-of-kinder-morgan-executive-prompts-allegations-by-arizona-homeowners/75-a2428df9-851a-47a6-b2f1-2d8b33f5734f>

It is hard to imagine that Mr. Fore was unaware his comments could be perceived not as reassurance, but rather as a covert warning to the residents of the consequences that would ensue should they continue their advocacy. In fact, given that Mr. Fore is a high-ranking public affairs executive at your company, it seems nearly impossible that he was not aware that his words would be taken as a threat.

At the time of this conversation, the 66 residents of Haystack Ranch were exercising their First Amendment rights to voice their well-founded concerns about the powerful compressor station that has been proposed within eyesight and earshot of their backyards. They believe the company-preferred location of the compressor station presents risks to their community's health and welfare. They never opposed the project; they only asked your company to relocate it to the alternative site which is safely distanced from their homes. Any effort to silence citizens for exercising their First Amendment rights is indefensible and must be expressly condemned. I will vigorously protect the rights of all citizens to speak out and petition their government for relief, whatever the subject of their remarks.

By stating in a public meeting how your company could tell Haystack Ranch to 'pound sand', your company's remarks could be interpreted to have threatened punitive consequences. Similar threats conveyed through litigation, rather than informal comments are prohibited under Arizona's anti-SLAPP suit law, Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 12-751. The comments of your company's representative appear to violate the spirit of this law, if not the letter.

I stand behind the efforts of citizens in Arizona to advocate for the protection of their health and safety against corporate decisions seemingly designed only to protect corporate profits.

Sincerely,



Kris Mayes
Attorney General
State of Arizona

cc: Katie Hobbs, Governor, State of Arizona