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THE CITY OF
MOAB



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December 9, 2025

Board of Directors
DarkSky International
5049 East Broadway Blvd #105
Tucson, AZ 85711

Dear DarkSky Board of Directors,

As Mayor of Moab, a Dark Sky Community since 2024, I am pleased to support Utahraptor State Park's application to become an International Dark Sky Park. Southeastern Utah is one of the most concentrated Dark Sky regions in the world, with Arches and Canyonlands National Parks, Hovenweep and Natural Bridges National Monuments, Dead Horse Point State Park, and the Dark Sky Communities of Castle Valley, Bluff, and Moab all preserving awe-inspiring, restful nights across the Colorado Plateau. Utahraptor State Park's certification would expand this constellation of Dark Sky Places, providing lasting health and quality-of-life benefits for Moab residents.

Our shared dark skies support residents' health, local ecological systems, and our economy. In 2024, nearly 16 million national park visitors spent approximately \$2 billion in Utah's gateway communities. Our Park Service partners note that an uncompromised night sky is an important aspect of the visitor experience. Furthermore, the Utah Office of Tourism estimates that overnight guests spend three times as much as daytime visitors, making night-sky programming significant to our local economy. The long, clear nights of winter offer excellent stargazing, as do the summer nights that provide a break from the day's heat. A Dark Sky designation for Utahraptor State Park will extend these opportunities, encouraging visitors to enjoy Moab a little longer.

The City of Moab enthusiastically supports Utahraptor State Park's Dark Sky application and looks forward to continued collaboration across southeastern Utah to protect one of our most inspiring natural resources, the night sky.

Sincerely,

Joette Langianese
Mayor City of Moab