

Abigail C. Johnson
1983 Maison Way
Carson City, NV 89703

Abigail C. Johnson
425 Winnemucca St.
P.O. Box 183
Baker, NV 89311

June 15, 2008

HAND DELIVERED

Tracy Taylor, P.E.
State Engineer
Nevada Division of Water Resources
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 2002
Carson City, Nevada 89701

State	'S EXHIBIT	20
DATE:	7-15-08	

RECEIVED
STATE ENGINEER
JUL 15 2008

Re: Recognition as Interested Person – Application Nos. 54022 – 54030, inclusive

Dear Mr. Taylor:

Pursuant to NAC §533.100, Abigail C. Johnson hereby requests recognition as an Interested Person with respect to Application Nos. 54022 – 54030, inclusive. Enclosed is the \$225.00 fee required by NAC §533.100.

Pursuant to NAC §533.100(2), I hereby set forth the following grounds in support of a showing of extreme circumstances that prevented me from filing a protest to Application Nos. 54022 – 54030 in a timely manner:

1. I am a property owner and part time resident in Baker, White Pine County, Nevada, where I have owned property since 2003, and where I have owned a home since November, 2004. I consider the Snake Valley to be home. When I retire, I intend to spend part of my time in retirement in the Snake Valley
2. As a homeowner served by the Baker Water and Sewer General Improvement District water system, I depend on the water utility to provide potable water that meets the standards of the Safe Drinking Water Act. The Baker Water and Sewer GID depends on groundwater in the Snake Valley to serve me and all of the customers in its district. In addition, as the owner of property in the Lehman Creek Subdivision, I intend to develop the property, and need the availability of groundwater in the Snake Valley now and in the future.
3. I did not file a protest of Snake Valley applications at the time of the original application, because I did not own property in Snake Valley. I did file a protest on an application in Spring Valley to express my overall opposition and concern based on my interest in the future of the White Pine County area and its intrinsic beauty and recreational and wildlife opportunities, and

participated as a protestant in that hearing process. I have been visiting Snake and Spring Valleys since 1980. If I had known in 1989 that 19 years later I would own three pieces of property in the Snake Valley and be a part time resident of Baker, I would have made every effort to file a protest on the applications now being considered because they directly threaten my future and the future of my investments in the Snake Valley. When Southern Nevada Water Authority reactivated the applications of the Las Vegas Valley Water District, I found myself in the extreme circumstance of being a property owner and homeowner disenfranchised from the water hearing process for Snake Valley applications.

I have pursued the opportunity to be heard in this matter for some time. In November, 2005, I requested that the State Engineer re-open the protest period for 30 days to allow newly affected parties to register as protestants and to allow for changes in status to address situations like mine. When that request was denied, I joined with others in a lawsuit to seek judicial relief on this matter. Because the case is still pending in the Nevada Supreme Court, with unknown likelihood of resolution before the Snake Valley applications are heard, I now find myself in the extreme circumstance of having no option other than requesting recognition as an Interested Person, so that my situation as a new property owner, homeowner, and part time resident of Baker can be considered.

I intend to develop my residential parcel in the Lehman Creek Subdivision. However, I determined, given the uncertain availability of groundwater in the area, it was not prudent for me to drill a well for my domestic supply needs. The uncertainties of the existing water supply and hydrogeologic setting, combined with the recent study that shows that groundwater pumping by SNWA may adversely affect water sources in the nearby Great Basin National Park, has confirmed my initial judgment that a dependable source of groundwater is necessary in order for me to develop my five acre parcel in the upper part of the Lehman Creek Subdivision.

It is essential that the hearing consider the testimony and evidence of newcomers who are staking their future on the future of the Snake Valley. I am one of those people. It is wrong that when hearings are delayed the length of a generation, persons who now have interests in the area are excluded. If granted Interested Person status, I intend to provide testimony about the impacts of the proposed groundwater pumping on my development plans and my future in the place that I consider to be home.

4. The Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) is the successor in interest to the Las Vegas Valley Water District (LVVWD), the entity that filed Application Nos. 54022 – 54030.
5. SNWA and the LVVWD delayed the consideration of Application Nos. 54022 – 54030 for almost 20 years, during which time it has become clear that the

water table in Snake Valley already is declining and that the export of water from Snake Valley by SNWA would devastate the economy and environment of Snake Valley. This delay clearly constitutes an extreme circumstance warranting recognition of Abigail C. Johnson as an Interested Person for the hearing on Application Nos. 54022 – 54030.

6. The unprecedented magnitude of the proposed water project and its potential impact also supports a finding of extreme circumstances.
7. SNWA Application Nos. 54022 - 54030 seek a quantity of water that would substantially impact the springs and stream flows upon which all Snake Valley residents and wildlife depend.
8. Absent recognition as an Interested Person pursuant to NAC §533.100, Abigail C. Johnson will have no forum in which to present evidence on these potential impacts and their public policy ramifications.

Based on the grounds set forth above, request is respectfully made for recognition as an Interested Person in proceedings to be held on Application Nos. 54022 – 54030.

Sincerely,



Abigail C. Johnson
1983 Maison Way
Carson City, NV 89703
775/885-0612