

My name is Charlene Pete, Confederated Tribes of the Goshute, in Ibapah, Utah.

“When the BLM visited our reservation a couple of months ago, I commented that, the BARCASS Report, in the first draft of their study, mentioned the Deep Creek area, then when the final draft came out the Deep Creek study had been removed. So, then I asked if the BLM did a study. The response that we received was that they (the BLM) did **not** study **our reservation or the Deep Creek area**. They said that somebody **should** do a study. So, when I hear or read that SNWA’s information and or other studies say that our valley will not be affected, how do **they know** our valley will not be affected **“if”** no one ever did a study on our valley?

That is why I believe that if our water is sent to Las Vegas that will certainly turn our valley into another Owens Valley. I know this first hand, because as a small child in the ‘70’s, I remember large dust clouds coming over the San Gabriel mountains when the Santa Ana winds would blow all this **gunk** into L.A. It was one of the main reasons we left L. A., as the doctor told my father to move to the southwest where the air was drier and freer from smog and dust. And this was a time when Owens Valley still had **some** farm lands left. So, if this project is approved it will bring certain doom to Ibapah and eastern Nevada. Our valley ranchers and their families might be able to move, but where does that leave our Goshute Tribe? Where will our Goshute elders and tribal community, especially those who have never lived off the reservation go? You will certainly send our Native culture, language, ^{vegetation,} and people into a hopeless spiral of nothingness. For you will have separated a Native nation from its Native land and water. I am afraid that **“The Nevada State Water Engineer Offices”**, will have single handedly in the twenty first century cause genocide to the Goshute Tribe and to the rural folk in the area. I hope that you will take my comment into consideration. Thank You.”