

DAVID ARTHUR POUND
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ELY, Nevada 89301-3125

17th November, 2011

SUSAN - JOSEPH TAYLOR
Chief Hearing Officer
Office of the State Water Engineer
901 South Stewart Street
Suite 2002
Carson City, NV 89701

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STATE ENGINEER'S OFFICE

Dear Ms. Taylor,

re: Southern Nevada Water Authority pipeline project in Eastern Nevada counties.

I am OPPOSED to this project on the following grounds :

1: The Spring, Snake, Lake and other valleys most affected are already reverting to desert conditions due to the current small population and modest amount of agriculture and cattle raising, as well as climate change. Before settlement these valleys contained small rivers but these, and many springs, have long ceased to flow. Ranchers state the water table is steadily declining. Rates of recharge are obviously very low and, in contradiction to SNWA's assertion, there is NO "surplus" water.

2: We are frequently told that Southern Nevada needs to grow, but WHY is that ? Las Vegas already has a population nearing 2 million and has almost filled its valley; it has little industry and still depends heavily on revenues from gambling and entertainment, both of which are plentiful elsewhere and in more hospitable places than red-hot Southern Nevada.


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3: The construction industry, with its trade union allies, has been most vocal in its support of the pipeline project, asserting that it will provide numerous jobs. That may be true, but experience has indicated that, in order to maximise profits, an overlarge portion of such jobs usually go to illegal aliens.

4: The expense of the project, as quoted by SNWA, is estimated to be only about one-half of the realistic cost, making the possibility of financing a desalinisation plant on the California coast or in the upper Gulf of Mexico much more feasible. SNWA could then petition for a change in the outdated water distribution under the Colorado River Compact – and it would, then, have all the water it needed.

My final thought is that it is completely wrong for Clark County to remove a precious and badly needed resource (water) from other counties which desperately depend upon it, especially when there are other and much more realistic options.

Yours very truly,



David Arthur Pound

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