

November 28, 2011

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STATE ENGINEER'S OFFICE

To: Jason King, Nevada State Engineer  
From: Greg and Lois Faber  
Re: SNWA's Groundwater Withdrawal Project

Dear Mr. King,

As 36-year residents of EskDale Community located in the Snake Valley region in Utah, we are deeply concerned about SNWA's applications for groundwater in Spring Valley. We have poured our lives and resources into building a thriving community that provides opportunities in farming, ranching, business, dairy, education and cultural events. We are personally involved in the cultural and educational aspects as teachers at EskDale High School which is part of the Millard County School District. An over-the-border agreement allows our school to provide a quality education for students from the surrounding area in both Nevada and Utah.

Unlike many schools in rural areas, EskDale High School is well-known for its quality music program. Students have the opportunity to study the instrument of their choice and be part of an orchestra program that consistently receives superior ratings at region and state music events. Students also enrich their lives by singing in a choir that tours biannually and is known for quality performances. Along with the cultural activities in music and drama, EskDale High School provides a fine academic program at the school which prepares students from the surrounding rural areas to pursue higher education at universities, community colleges or technical schools. Many of these students get their education and choose to come back to work, raise families and continue to protect and build the life-style that has been developed in Snake Valley. This life-style is a part of the wonderful diversity in our country. Treasures like ours are important. Our citizens add to the rich heritage located outside the congested limits of cities.

The high desert climate in our area leaves us with limited rainfall. Our water resource comes from the groundwater supply that lies deep under our valley. Taking water from that resource leaves the present and future population at risk. If the water table drops, the livelihood of the ranchers, dairymen, farmers, miners, school teachers and business people will be compromised. We have family returning to the area with children that need the education and opportunities that our community has worked so hard to build. The potential impacts of draining water from Spring Valley on the connected Snake Valley are devastating to us and our future generations. We believe it is imperative that the Nevada State Engineer's office consider how future generations will be forced to pay both the financial and the environmental costs of a plan which will most likely not meet the objective of providing a secure water supply for Southern Nevada.

Sincerely Concerned Citizens,

*Greg and Lois Faber*