



Water Pipeling Comments <nsepipelinecomments@gmail.com>

# Please deny the demand from the Southern Nevada Water Authority for groundwater rights in White Pine and Lincoln counties.

1 message

Jason King <tinanappe@gmail.com>  
Reply-To: Jason King <tinanappe@gmail.com>  
To: nsepipelinecomments@gmail.com

Mon, Nov 28, 2011 at 3:02 PM

Nov 28, 2011

Jason King  
NV

Dear King,

We believe the scientific information is overwhelming: Draining 50 billion gallons of groundwater from the Great Basin would devastate Native American communities, rural economies and wildlife habitat over a huge area.

Further, the families and small businesses of Las Vegas, recovering from a brutal recession, cannot afford the huge price tag for this project.

Dear Mr. King:

Re: Spring, Cave, Dry Lake, and Delamar Valleys water applications

You face a difficult decision with regard to above water applications. While not politically appropriate to oppose SNWA, I urge you to just say "no". Why?

The cost of building and delivering water will require putting the water to beneficial use.....by leasing it or exchanging it with other states, within Clark Co. or even back to White Pine residents until such time as Clark Co. can consume the water. The water purveyor, presumably SNWA must cover its costs and ideally will want to make a profit. In fact the public may be encouraged to use excess water to demonstrate beneficial use.

The State of Nevada water laws are not sufficient to protect springs. Citizens lack the financial resources to protest. Only by a chance, good luck, and a miracle has the Great Basin Water Network been formed and taken on the role of David against Goliath. Without GBWN, SNWA

2011 DEC -5 AM 9:11

DRINKING WATER RECEIVED

DEC 01 2011

LAS VEGAS OFFICE

would have run roughshod with minimal ineffective opposition.

The issues still on the table are:

- \*Inadequate water laws to protect resources other than SNWA; there are no definitive laws to sustain wildlife, maintain air quality or protect plants.
- \*Lack of independent monitoring of SNWA's project; only the USGS appears to be neutral. Can DWR require that SNWA provide DWR with the financial resources with which to provide monitoring to the State and the public?
- \*A weak Department of Wildlife (NDOW) which so far is failing to protect Nevada wildlife by not testifying against this project at the hearings. NDOW's priority is big game animals which are initially less affected by the project.
- \*Virtual elimination of community development within the SNWA sphere of water influence and deterioration of existing water rights as water is drawn down.
- \*Establishing an example of importation that other water importers will be sure to follow.
- \*Protecting both wildlife and communities against long term drought. Please see article on San Antonio at the end and note that SNWA can do more saving at a lower price.

Once you say "yes" there will be no way to stop SNWA from virtually destroying eastern Nevada. DWR has served the state with objectivity and sound science. Yet the State is increasingly lopsided with one county now wielding supreme power over the state, as fact which cannot fail to make an impression. Keeping my fingers crossed and wishing you all the best.

Sincerely,

By Mark Greenberg, for USA TODAY

Even as nearby fields wither and lakes dry up under a relentless drought, water continues to flow in San Antonio. Texas' second-largest city is weathering the state's historic drought better than most cities because of innovative water conservation techniques in place for more than a decade.

They include year-round water restrictions, dual-flush toilets in thousands of homes and businesses, and the keen eye of the "Water Police," off-duty San Antonio police officers who drive around enforcing water-restriction rules. A first offense can cost \$130. Amid the current drought, which has cost the state more than \$5 billion in crops and cattle losses, San Antonio's water-saving ways suddenly are drawing attention.

"San Antonio is by far the most aggressive and successful in terms of their water conservation efforts in Texas," says Ken Kramer, director of the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club. "More and more water suppliers are looking at ways to reduce their water use. San

RECORDED  
2011 DEC -5 AM 9:11  
STATE FILE

**DWR LETTER  
FILED**

DEC 01 2011

**LAS VEGAS OFFICE**

Antonio provides a good model."

The year-long drought has shrunk water supplies in aquifers and lakes throughout Texas, forcing restrictions on more than 900 of the state's 4,700 water systems - double the number in a normal dry year, says Dan Hardin of the Texas Water Development Board. Some towns are almost out of water, he says.

San Antonio is unusual because instead of looking for new water sources to meet demand, it has drastically cut its water use, making it one of the most efficient water-saving cities in Texas, Hardin says. "The easiest, most economical and most reliable method is to find a way to not need that much water," Hardin says. "San Antonio has a very aggressive program toward that."

A 5-inch, sightless amphibian had something to do with it. The city draws most of its water from the Edwards Aquifer, a large underwater limestone formation. In the mid-1990s, the Sierra Club and other groups sued the city in federal court, claiming its sapping of the Edwards Aquifer was killing off the Texas blind salamander, a rare species that lives in the aquifer, says Steve Clouse, chief operating officer of the San Antonio Water System.

A federal judge sided with the environmentalists, limiting how much water San Antonio can take from the aquifer, he says. At first, local leaders bristled at the federal intrusion. Today, they see it as a godsend. "The events of the mid-'90s, where we had restrictions put on our aquifer, were difficult for us to deal with," Clouse says. "Now we're way ahead of the curve because of it."

The agency offers businesses incentives and rebates for large-scale commercial retrofits to water-saving faucets and other equipment. Recycled water from waste treatment plants is used to replenish the San Antonio River and sprinkle golf courses, parks and other commercial uses, further saving drinking water, says Karen Guz, the agency's conservation director. A free toilet-replacement program has also brought more than 200,000 dual-flush or otherwise water-efficient toilets to homes across the city.

The agency's goal is to save 1 billion gallons of water a year, Guz says. The techniques are working: The city used the same amount of water in 2009 that it did in 1984 - about 65 billion gallons a year - even though its population has soared 67% since then to 1.3 million, she says. San Antonians average about 130 gallons per person per day, well under the 200 gallons per person statewide average, she says.

I urge you to deny the applications filed by the Southern Nevada Water Authority and support the best interests of all of Nevada.

Sincerely,

Mr. Jason King  
615 Robinson Ct

RECORDED  
2011 DEC -5 AM 9:11  
STATE ENGINEER

DO NOT  
REPLY

DEC 01 2011

LAS VEGAS OFFICE

Reno, NV 89503-5903

---

RECEIVED

2011 DEC -5 AM 9:11

STATE ENGINEER

RECEIVED

DEC 01 2011

LAS VEGAS OFFICE