Mr. Jason King, State Engineer
Nevada Division of Water Resources
901 S. Stewart Street, Suite 2002
Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Mr. King,

Thank you for your comments regarding the Southern Nevada Water Authority's in-state groundwater development project. The project, which proposes to transfer unused groundwater from east-central Nevada to southern Nevada, will supply a critical future water resource for the Las Vegas valley.
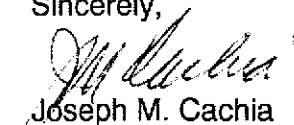
Currently, southern Nevada depends on the Colorado River for almost all of its drinking-water needs. As drought conditions continue to impact Colorado River snow pack and water flows, it is imperative that local water managers diversify the community's water resource options. Having a diverse selection of available water supplies will provide greater protection from future drought, and unknown implications from expected climate variation. The project will allow current and future resources to be more responsibly managed.

For more than 20 years, local water managers have planned to develop in-state groundwater resources to meet future demands. The planning process has been public, involving stakeholders from throughout Nevada. A number of factors have been considered, including environmental, social and economic. The project remains essential, and will provide a water resource that will be used not only to meet existing and future demands, but protect the community from drought and other supply limitations.

Nearly two million southern Nevadan residents, including the businesses and community resources we depend on, require a consistent and secure water supply. Economic stability and regional progress are inextricably linked to available water resources. As our desert community looks toward a bright future, our prosperity is defined by the water available to us.

I support the in-state groundwater development project. This water is an important, additional resource for southern Nevada that will help to ensure a local water supply.

Sincerely,

Joseph M. Cachia
General Manager
UI Technologies