

November 29, 2011

Susan Joseph-Taylor  
Chief Hearing Officer  
Office of the State Engineer  
901 S. Stewart St., Suite 2002  
Carson City, NV 89701

To Whom It May Concern:

Being a life-long resident of Lincoln County, I would like to comment about the proposed SNWA pipe line. My great-great grandparents were pioneers in this area, so my roots and history run deep. Through observation, I have found that whenever "humans" step in and change things, some unknown and unforeseen things always occur. Just to note a few examples: when the railroad came through in the early 1900's installing the rail lines and bridges, the consequence was periodic flooding which over the course of the years has washed away much of the meadow land that was here; when it was decided that the wild horses needed to be protected, they have become overpopulated, inbred, and a huge problem.

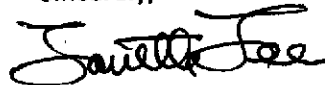
Lincoln County gets about seven inches of rain a year and has been in a drought for years as has Clark County. The proposed pipeline will cost much more than projected, and when, and if, the water starts flowing to Clark County and homes, etc., begin to depend on it, it will not be stopped even if the habitat in Lincoln County is being ruined. It will take a long time before monitoring reveals a significant impact.

It makes much more sense to me for the SNWA to band together with other water authorities in other thirsty states in the region and spend the money on developing technology and building desalination plants along the coastline. The ocean is an almost unending source of water. Who knows, if the projected rise in the ocean levels does start to occur, removing water for desalination might help protect our coastlines.

Another idea I am putting forward is a building moratorium, or a tightly-controlled building program, in the Las Vegas Valley area so expansion in that area does not endanger the livelihoods of those of us in the rural areas.

Thank you for your consideration of my opinions.

Sincerely,



Lavette Lee  
Caliente, Nevada

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STATE ENGINEER'S OFFICE  
CARSON CITY, NV