

Nov. 29, 2011

LAS VEGAS NV
314-89146

MR. JASON KING
NUI ST. WATER ENGINEER
ST. OF NV, C.S, NV.

DEAR MR. KING

MY GUSSTNAME IS LERLAND DANE.
I AM THE FIRST WHITE CHILD OF REC-
ORD BORN AT INDIAN SPRINGS, NV.
MY GRANDFATHER & GREAT GRAND-
FATHER HAD DUG THEIR IG. WELLS,
SO I CAME UP KNOWING WHAT IS WAS
TO CONSERVE. I WROTE THIS ESSAY
FOR A CONTEST SPONSORED BY THE
D.A.R., & WON THE EVENT. THIS WAS
IN 8TH GRADE IN ^A 1950. I'M SURE
YOU'RE AWARE OF THE "OWENS VALLEY"
FRISCO IN CALIF. IN 1949 MY GRAND-
FATHER TIMOTHY F. HARNBY PREDICTED
THIS WOULD HAPPEN DUE TO OUR
GROWTH. I'M AWARE YOU'VE GOT A
LOAD ON YOUR SHOULDERS, BUT WOULD
STRONGLY APPRECIATE A DECISION
AGAINST THE PIPELINE. THANKING
YOU IN ADVANCE, AND GOD BLESS YOU.

Leland Dane

PX # 702 873-1212

**DCNR/DWR
RECEIVED**

NOV 29 2011

LAS VEGAS OFFICE

Nevada's Billion Dollar Asset - Water

Written by -

Leland Ralph Dane

Age 13 - Grade 8th

North Las Vegas School #2

Teacher - Mr. Fincher

"NEVADA'S BILLION DOLLAR ASSET--WATER"

Conservation Pledge

I give my pledge as an American to save and faithfully to defend from waste, the natural resources of my country--Its soils and minerals, its forests, water and wildlife.

Down through the centuries the pages of history are blotted with man's waste and mistreatment of our earth's natural resources. We have developed to be superior in many ways, but not along the conservation trail. Our natural resources must have seemed to be of unlimited supply to the first pioneers. After the pioneers, the exploiters and more humanity came. The logger's axe mowed paths through forests, the plow made meadow-land into fields, and so with all of our country's natural resources. So it went with water. To them, what was water? Nothing at the time because there was so much of it, but now it means a lot to us. Through their carelessness water is limited now. In places people have to spend tremendous sums for the digging of wells so that there may be enough for all uses. Some waters are contaminated because of man's carelessness. Fish can't live there, and the water is not fit for swimming or other uses. They say that, "next to air he breathes, water is man's greatest necessity." This saying should mean a lot to Nevada citizens, because we have a limited supply of water here. Lack of water on the land has been the greatest hold-back in the development of agriculture in Nevada. Dry farming has been tried but was not successful in most cases. Irrigation seemed to be the

best and only way to Nevada farmers. Irrigation was a simple matter when the farmers first used it. A simple dam stored up the water and from there it was flooded over the fields. That was all there was to it. The first farmers wasted much of the water. Then they learned the importance and scarcity of water in Nevada. They set up a system of canals, headgates, and ditches, thereby cutting down the loss of water to a very small amount. The first settlers believed the arid land an utter waste.

Now we are learning how to handle the situation. Outside help has come from the government. Ever since that time the government has been helping Nevada with its water situation. This is just one example, but through great dams like Hoover Dam we have backed up the largest man-made lake in the world, Lake Mead. Hoover Dam furnishes power for the states of Nevada, and parts of Utah, Arizona and California. It is also a wonder one never forgets. Because of it people all the way to the Gulf of Lower California do not have to worry about floods; they also know that it provides a sure water supply. These are just a few of the ways in which a dam can help. Many tourist attractions have been developed because of adequate water development. Almost everything depends on water; that is why we should conserve it. Water is the life-blood of civilization. Water can help to be conserved by the following means: water-shed protection, water storage, prevention of canal and ditch losses, proper irrigation, and control of ground water. Those are ways that we can conserve water.

Here are some reasons why Nevada is the most arid of all the states: Nevada has an average normal precipitation of 8.87 inches a year. The heaviest annual precipitation, more than 20 inches, is

in the high mountains, mostly in the northern part of our state. The lightest precipitation being 3.1 inches in the southern part of the state. Nevada has many streams with an average flow of two million acre-feet of water annually. Nevada does not have many lakes. The two biggest are Lake Tahoe, and Lake Mead.

The best way we can conserve our ground-water resources is to not overdevelop them. Everything in Nevada depends on wise use of this water--farming, forestry, livestock, industry, industrial development, and tourist trade. Our billion dollar wealth depends on those items. Without water they would not be possible; therefore, water is our billion dollar asset. People in Nevada are trying to use this asset wisely because they know there is a scarcity of water in our state. It is up to the people to use this asset wisely and to the best advantage possible. It is everyone's responsibility--upon it our whole existence depends.