

September 30, 2011

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

Dear Mr. King:

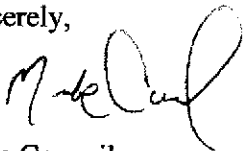
I am concerned about the impact the economic slowdown has had on unemployment and population loss for Nevada. Foreclosures and short sales dominate our real estate market. Nevada has many economic issues to address in order to re-establish itself, especially with Las Vegas, to make it a desirable place to live, work, and play once again. It's especially important to have the promise of a safe and reliable water supply to help secure the future for Southern Nevada.

Our water resources must be diversified. Southern Nevada's reliance on the drought-plagued Colorado River will not be sustainable. The Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) Groundwater Development Project is critical to resource diversification.

I strongly support the Bureau of Land Reclamation's Draft Environmental Impact Statement, but I am concerned that it does not address the economic impact to Southern Nevada if the SNWA's application is denied. It is imperative for the entire economic well-being of the state that Southern Nevada remain economically stable, especially since it's the largest producer of tax revenue. Lake Mead will run dry with continued reliance on the Colorado River as a water supply. The trickledown effect will be disastrous, affecting the development, construction, and tourism industries—just to name a few.

I am in direct support of the SNWA groundwater project and the proposed action in the BLM's Draft Environmental Impact Statement, and hope for the benefit of Southern Nevada the application is approved.

Sincerely,



Mike Council
President, Lawn Council
6621 Cowboy Trail
Las Vegas, NV 89131