



September 21, 2011

NEVADA PARTNERS

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ROSE MCKINNEY-JAMES, Chair
President, Energy Works Consulting

TONY F. SANCHEZ, Treasurer
Corporate Senior Vice President
NV Energy

STEVEN HORSFORD
Chief Executive Officer
Culinary Academy of Las Vegas

MARK LARSON
Executive Vice President
Bank of Nevada

BEVERLY ROGERS

MARCIA TURNER
Vice Chancellor of Operations/
Chief Operating Officer
University of Nevada
Health Sciences System

EXECUTIVE STAFF

MONICA FORD
President/Executive Director

702-924-2100
www.Nevadapartners.org
710 West Lake Mead Blvd.,
North Las Vegas, NV 89030

Dear Mr. King,

On behalf of Nevada Partners, Inc., I would like to express my support for the Southern Nevada Water Authority's applications for unused groundwater in Lincoln and White Pine counties.

Nevada Partners is a community-based, nonprofit agency in North Las Vegas, Nevada. As an organization committed to building a healthy and sustainable community, we appreciate and understand significance of the issues under review by your office regarding these applications, particularly in the context of potential environmental impacts. However, we believe the SNWA will continue to sustainably manage its resources, as well as cooperate with stakeholders throughout our community and the state.

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. Lake Mead serves as an ominous reminder that our community cannot continue to rely on a single source of water—a lesson that is more important now more than it has ever been to our community and our state.

A diverse water supply is essential for southern Nevada to continue rebuilding from the economic challenges facing the state. Without one, investors and tourists alike will lose confidence in the community. We urge the State Engineer to approve the Southern Nevada Water Authority's applications in Spring, Dry Lake, Delamar and Cave Valleys and to continue to protect the public interest of our entire state. We trust you will apply the law fairly and use the science wisely, to protect the environment and the people of Nevada.

Sincerely,

Monica Ford
President/Executive Director
Nevada Partners, Inc.