



October 3, 2011

Jason King, P.E.
State Engineer
Attention: Susan Joseph-Taylor
Chief Hearing Officer
901 S. Stewart St., Suite 2002
Carson City, NV 89701-5250

Dear Mr. King,

As a business owner and resident of Nevada, I am concerned about the ability for Nevada's economy to recover from its current downturn. The health of the economy is paramount in the ability of many businesses, including my own, to flourish.

Southern Nevada plays a critical role in Nevada's overall economic well being. Considered Nevada's economic engine, Southern Nevada generates the largest portion of our state's tax revenue. Therefore, if the State of Nevada is going to rebound from the serious economic challenges it faces, then Southern Nevada needs to be able to attract and retain businesses, revive the construction industry and be able to promise a stable and sustainable future to its residents. Without sufficient water resources to manage future droughts and/or growth, that stability is at risk.

It is in the entire state's interest that the Southern Nevada Water Authority be permitted to develop unused water in the eastern part of the state. The SNWA's Groundwater Development Project will provide a new and reliable water resource that Southern Nevada desperately needs. I believe that the SNWA will develop these water resources in an environmentally responsible manner and that the development of the water will not come at the expense of rural Nevada. Nevada's economy is dependent on Southern Nevada's ability to provide its resident, businesses and industries with water.

I support the SNWA's applications for unused water in Spring, Delamar, Dry Lake and Cave Valleys and urge you to approve them. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Omar Palacios", written in a cursive style.

Omar Palacios
Business Owner