



CITY OF HENDERSON
240 Water Street
P. O. Box 95050
Henderson, NV 89009-5050

October 5, 2017

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

Dear Mr. King:

As Mayor of Nevada's second largest city, I understand the importance of water issues in our state. I also understand the difficult nature of your responsibility to balance the needs of Nevada residents with the environment, agriculture and other existing uses when making decisions regarding our most precious resource.

More than 300,000 residents of the City of Henderson rely exclusively on the Colorado River for their water. While this resource currently meets our community's water needs, unprecedented drought on the Colorado has required us to examine other resource options to meet water demands.

For this reason, I support the Southern Nevada Water Authority's (SNWA) use of monitoring, management and mitigation (3M) plans for responsible groundwater development. In addition, key indicators that include reasonable triggers and thresholds for investigation and mitigation actions based upon observed data, rather than uncertain modeling projections should be preferred to reduce uncertainty, increase responsiveness to changing conditions and enhance management and mitigation efficacy.

Nevada water law states that unappropriated groundwater should be utilized where it is needed most, and that is in Southern Nevada. Additionally, Nevada water law would not allow the SNWA to develop this resource at the detriment of others. That, combined with the SNWA's long-standing record of environmental stewardship, offers assurance that the SNWA will develop and utilize these resources in a responsible and equitable manner.

For these reasons, the City of Henderson respectfully requests a favorable ruling be made on the SNWA's groundwater applications.

Sincerely,

Debra March
Mayor

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