

October 13, 2017

Office of the State Engineer  
Attn: Susan Joseph-Taylor  
901 S. Stewart St. Suite 2002  
Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you as a rural resident in White Pine County. We consider ourselves fortunate to live in such a beautiful, fascinating area with incredible scenery, skies, clean air and silence. We depend on our groundwater, which in the driest state in the union is in a fragile equilibrium. We have gardens, farms, ranches, dairy farms and even a farmer's market where we sell locally grown produce. We have a National Park that year after year attracts more and more visitors that need places to stay and eat. We have endured droughts and witnessed stream beds dry up and turn to sand with no vegetation. We know that taking any amount of water from our valley will have a detrimental effect on our lives and well-being.

We do not know what the future holds for us in terms of development (remembering, after all, that Las Vegas was very much smaller only 50 years ago) but it seems clear

that SNWA's "temporary" measure to resolve their current water issue does not bode well for the rest of the state and will open the door for more exploitation of rural Nevada. The state engineer should not believe that Nevada is a wasteland to be exploited by monied interests in one part of the state.

SNWA has not demonstrated in all the years that it is serious about monitoring and mitigating any of the damaging effects that the pipeline plan would surely cause. As stakeholders, we have not seen any evidence from the monitoring of their wells. As for mitigation we have been told "Trust us." Well, it is not surprising that after all these years of telling lies and lacking credible evidence, we do NOT trust them. More than that all the years wasted in pursuing this temporary plan are years that could have been used to find a serious solution to the water issue without cannibalizing parts of our state.

Given that it is not necessary to point out all the details of the problems with SNWA's plan as the Judges have made them quite clear, I strongly recommend that the State Engineer apply the latest demands by the court, respect Nevada water law, and do what is best for the whole great state of Nevada.

Yours truly,  
Theodore Stazeski

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