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

10/16/2017

Comments:

Some of these comments are copied from the Great Basin Water Network, in part.

I lived in Ely, Nevada for ten years and utilized the natural resources associated with the surrounding public lands, both BLM and USFS, and as such, I have continued to use these resources for hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing and recreational OHV driving throughout the last 30 plus years. The proposed project would negatively impact my use of these natural resources by lowering the natural water table levels of all the valleys being considered for water transportation. The lowering of the water tables will have the impact of drying up surface springs and wetlands that I utilize for recreation mentioned above.

I urge you to apply the District Court's decision and Nevada water law and deny SNWA's applications.

These four valleys represent only Phase One of SNWA's ultimate intended project from rural Nevada. If this phase is permitted, it will only grow.

SNWA has not demonstrated that it can effectively mitigate the widespread, destructive impacts that its proposed Groundwater Development Project pumping would cause to senior water rights and the environment.

The feds have said they can't evaluate the actual impacts until SNWA does basin-specific modeling, and are counting on the State Engineer to fully consider the project's actual impacts as part of deciding how much water can be appropriated. Also, the Final EIS for this project has been overruled and sent back to the BLM for a failure to provide adequate mitigation measures.

Therefore, I request you deny the applications, until the SNWA provides basin specific water modeling that proves their applications will not impact senior water rights and the environment. The actual impacts associated with these applications must be known, prior to approving the applications.

Sincerely,

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