

State Engineer Susan Joseph-Taylor
901 S. Stewart Street Suite 2002
Carson City, Nevada 89701

October 16, 2017

Dear Ms. Taylor, thank you for the opportunity to express my thoughts on any mitigation with Southern Nevada Water Authority. Since the arrival of SNWA in White Pine County their management team has wasted no time in alienating every neighbor that they have come in contact with and intimidating the local federal agencies as well. They are a public utility. The local Bureau of Land Management asked where in the Taylor Grazing Act does it say that a public utility could hold a permit to graze. A call was received from Washington D.C. that a permit would be issued or some ones career would drastically be altered. Even though they operate as a LLC, it is still a public utility. You can put lipstick on a pig all day long and it is still a pig!

This same management team called Dean Baker a liar. This only drove Baker Ranch into high gear to obstruct. My self, I have hardly any water right other than stock water. They have made it very apparent to me that I will be collateral damage. Not once did they stop by to talk. Their first manager informed me that part of his job would be to put me out of business? I tried to extend an olive branch to SNWA only to have my cattle choked for water, gates on federal ground illegally padlocked, to having cattle from a State quarantined herd infected with a venereal disease put in a pasture next to my wintering bulls. SNWA's second manager introduced himself and then threatened to physically beat me up???? Maybe that's the Vegas way but is slightly less than admirable here on the other side of nowhere. He has continued to intimidate the BLM about an in common allotment that I share with SNWA. I cannot change the topography of the allotment but am bound to lose. They have tried to get the BLM to give them all my records for the last thirty-three years? The big dog always eats first. What value do they have with this approach?

I am not the only person to have these types of encounters. From the mail lady to the secretary their manager took a hot shot to, to the power company personnel, to their neighbors to the South in dry lake valley, to the sheer insult of their equipment sporting exempt plates to not paying sales tax, they are a night mare to be around; but mother said to always say something nice, so at least they treat everybody equally.

Please tell me how you can mitigate anything with these folks? They have a cadre of lawyers. They can drag you out for generations. Isn't this about the fourth hearing over the same issues for you? We will die of a thousand paper cuts. If we can find a decent water attorney, by the time there is a conclusion the rancher will be broke.

I do not envy your position. It is apparent here that the aquifers have been in a negative recharge for over one hundred years. The evidence is visible. Old horse Fresno dug reservoirs and ditches abound. Fields with water rights granted a hundred years ago no longer have water even running down the creek. The opinion

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and juniper has robbed the aquifers of recharge long before modern irrigation. Wells drilled have been dry for years. Brush grows where meadows once flourished. The water will never return from Vegas. When they get the water and it is not adequate for the growth, every valley in Nevada will have a spider web of pipelines. This will go down in history as the worst environmental holocaust ever by mankind.

Finally I do not wish to be an obstructionist but SNWA would be better served by going to the ocean for water. What is even more ludicrous is my wife has a home in Las Vegas and I just paid her monthly water bill. It was thirty dollars, up from twenty-five the month before. If the People were only told the truth of what this fiasco is going to cost every taxpayer in the state, there would be a different outcome I believe.

I graduated from UNR College of Agriculture in 1971. Rather than take a town job, I went to work for three hundred a month and board and room. I purchased two old bred cows and Bob McDonald squared a check he wrote to me in a poker game for seven sheep. Forty-six years later things have improved. As insignificant as my lifetime of work may be to the average scheme of things, it is my Sistine Chapel. No, I am not Michael Angelo but; I believe that my dues have been paid more than once and at least to be elevated to being a human would be nice.

My Kindest Personal Regards:



Henry C. Vogler IV

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