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STATE ENGINEER'S OFFICE

Chief Hearing Officer Susan Joseph-Taylor
Office of the State Engineer
901 S. Stewart St.
suite 202
Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Ms. Joseph-Taylor:

I am writing to protest the interbasin transfer of water from White Pine County to the Las Vegas valley.

The Dept. of Interior Bureau of Land Management has performed an exhaustive review of the project. Their analysis of the pipeline project demonstrates the shortcomings of the project. The long term environmental risk alone is enough to put a halt to the plan. The loss of water in the caves in Harry Reid's Great Basin National park will undoubtedly be destructive to the health of those caves and the springs and groundwater that feed them. The cost is significant. The BLM audit of the financials should prove to show that the project is not feasible.

I have recently been in Chongqing, China. It is a city of unlimited growth. There have been no brakes placed on the growth of the city. It is a consolidated area on the Yangzee River. The builders continue to build. The human problems are immense. Chonqing has a population of 30 million people. Do the builders see an end?

This natural barrier might be here to give us an opportunity to pause and look to the future. What event will provide this opportunity in the future? If there continues to be the rate of growth that this project allows what kind of unintended consequences will appear for the next generation? Can this desert be right for a population as large as unabated growth will place on it? Can the Great Basin Desert survive with the loss of this water resource? In the long run, I think not.

Major Powell in his report to Congress after his exploration of the Colorado River stressed that the resources in the west cannot support large cities and that the population should be distributed in small communities.

The water resources in the west have proven to be limited. We should heed Major Powell's prophetic words.

Sincerely,
Glenn H. Terry