

921 Garden Street
Charleston, WV 25302-2505

22 November 2011

Mr. Jason King
Nevada Division of Water Resources
901 S. Stewart St.
Suite 2002
Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Mr King:

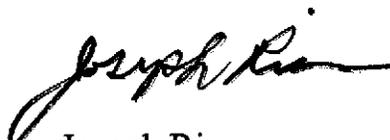
Nevada's "interbasin water transfer statute," NRS 533.370(6), currently requires you as state engineer to deny an application for an interbasin transfer of water if you find that the proposed transfer would not be "environmentally sound" for the basin being diverted.

I am writing to you because I care about the Great Basin and its plants and animals. I am appalled at the Southern Nevada Water Authority's request to pump and export water from aquifers in central and eastern Nevada.. Pumping 57 billion gallons of water annually to southern Nevada to support unsustainable growth is not justifiable. There are viable means of meeting the water needs through increased conservation, smart growth management and desalination options.

Given the catastrophic and irreversible impacts that would occur as a result of this groundwater extraction, as documented in the Bureau of Land Management's "draft environmental impact statement" for the pipeline proposal, it seems only reasonable to deem the water authority's request unacceptable.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Joseph Rice

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STATE ENGINEER'S OFFICE