

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

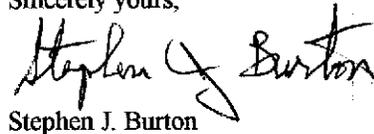
Dear Ms. Joseph-Taylor,

I am writing to comment on the proposed water pipeline from Ely to Las Vegas. Ever since the inception of this idea, I have been trying to get Pat Mulroy's attention, but she is pretty well insulated. Having come originally from Utah, I have lived for 20 years in California and visited Arizona frequently, I am familiar with both the Central California Project and the Central Arizona Project for transporting water from North to South. I think it may be time for the Central Nevada Project.

In my opinion, the current project now being debated is short-sighted in that it stops at Ely. The pipeline should be extended another 250 miles to the Snake River in Idaho. This would relieve the opposition from the farmers and ranchers in the affected valleys, as it would provide a way for the aquifer's to be re-charged should they be depleted.

Depending on the amount of water negotiated in a multi-state agreement with the State of Idaho, it could create a bread-basket through central Nevada similar to the San Fernando Valley in California. Please consider this option in your review of this project.

Sincerely yours,



Stephen J. Burton

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