September 30, 2011

REC'D - BLM - NSO
9:00 A.M. OCT 14 2011

Penny Woods
BLM Project Manager
PO Box 12000
Reno, NV 89520

Dear Ms. Woods:

I am writing to express my support of the Southern Nevada Water Authority's (SNWA) Groundwater Development Project and its request of rights-of-way to deliver unused water to Clark County.

Currently, southern Nevada depends on the Colorado River for almost all of its drinking-water needs. As drought conditions continue to impact Colorado River snow pack and water flows, it is imperative that local water managers diversify the community's water resource options. Having a diverse selection of available water supplies will provide greater protection from future drought, and unknown implications from expected climate variation. The project will allow current and future resources to be more responsibly managed.

I have confidence in the SNWA's ability to implement environmental protection and adaptive management measures to minimize environmental effects. Through rigorous monitoring practices and standard-operating procedures, in addition to measures it has stipulated with governmental agencies at all levels, the SNWA has identified numerous steps it will take during the project's construction and operational phases to help protect the wildlife and fauna of eastern Nevada.

For these and other reasons, I support the BLM's proposed action as the preferred alternative for the Groundwater Development Project and urge you to approve the SNWA's applications for rights-of-way. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rodney Ballard
Las Vegas Resident