



CITY OF BOULDER CITY

Mayor and City Council
401 California Avenue
Boulder City, NV 89005
www.bcnv.org

November 18, 2019



Bureau of Land Management
ATTN: Tiera Arbogast
702 North Industrial Way
Ely, NV 89301

Subject: Protest to BLM Decision for November 2019 Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale: DOI-BLM-NV-L000-2019-0004-EA in Lincoln, Nye, and White Pine Counties

Dear Ms. Arbogast:

I am writing on behalf of the City of Boulder City to express the concerns of City Council regarding the recent Bureau of Land Management (BLM) plan to lease federal lands for oil and gas exploration, specifically DOI-BLM-NV-L000-2019-0004-EA. The parcels that had been proposed for competitive oil and gas lease sale included the area located directly above the region's water system's aquifer supply, known as Basin 222. Our Council voted unanimously on November 12, 2019, to pass Resolution 7037, opposing the sale of parcels in Basin 222. The vote occurred after the parcels had been removed, but as a group, City Council felt strongly enough to move the resolution forward.

Many of the chemicals injected during the development of oil and gas resources have adverse health effects and/or adverse environmental impacts, including documented cases of water contamination near oil and gas sites. The pollution of water caused by the development of oil and gas resources also threatens the long-term economic well-being of Mesquite residents, businesses and visitors which are all dependent on clean drinking water as well as a detrimental effect on water source we all rely on.

Leaders of Boulder City question the decision to create a potential economic benefit to a very small group of individuals at the risk of irreparably destroying the sole water source of an entire community. We consider this an existential risk to the residents of Mesquite. Please keep our protest with the protests of others should the Bureau of Land Management reconsider lease sales in the subject parcels. Leaders of Boulder City strongly protest the offer any parcels in Basin 222 in the future.

Thank you for your time and consideration to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Kiernan McManus
Mayor

cc: US Senator Catherine Cortez Masto
Chairman Marilyn Kirkpatrick, Clark County Commission