

BLM_NV_NVSO_GWProjects

From: j lister <blister8@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2011 9:26 PM
To: BLM_NV_NVSO_GWProjects
Cc: Lee Mathews; Doug Busselman; Jamie Perkins; Matt Wadsworth; Paul Mathews
Subject: Comments
Attachments: pipeline_DEIS_comments10_11.docx

Please find attached the comments on the groundwater DEIS from the Lincoln County Farm Bureau

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11 October 2011

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Re: Comments on Nevada Groundwater Projects DEIS

Director Salazar:

As we are sure you have heard many times, there simply has not been enough time allowed for full review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Nevada Groundwater Projects Right of Way (Draft). It is unreasonable to ask for comments on something that there is not time for review. Additional time is necessary to review the entire Draft and make sensible comment. A closing date sometime in 2013 would probably give the average individual time to read, digest, and research the volume of information provided.

There are several items of information that have not been included in the Draft.

The opening page should include a disclosure that the Environmental Review process for the Lincoln County part of the Right of Way was overridden by Mr. Harry Reid. The fact that the Right of Way is created by law regardless of the NEPA process is essential information for all interested public. The amount of money wasted on the Lincoln County part of this analysis is an important piece of information.

Also missing is the full Economic Analysis. There is no mention of the ties between the pipeline and the relatives, business associates and large donors of Mr. Harry Reid. The analysis of the Economic impacts that a \$15 Billion project has on these people is essential for understanding of the project.

There is no discussion of the potential long term economic impacts to the entire region once pumping begins. How much will it cost domestic well owners to deepen their wells, and when will this cost occur? How much will pumping from deeper levels affect current agricultural producers? How much will deeper wells and deeper pumping depths affect our local communities and rate payers?

Another missing component is the cumulative impacts of the whole project including well sites, pumping stations, power generation stations, branch pipelines, etc. It appears that the 'divide and conquer' concept is being implemented on this project so that no one ever knows what the real impacts or costs will be.

How will pipeline construction and maintenance impact grazing operators? The ranchers along the pipeline have fought a constant battle over the last 40 years to be good stewards and protect the integrity of this rangeland; now a government entity with close ties to money and power comes along and destroys thousands of acres of this range. That seems very arbitrary and capricious. What kind of dollar amount can be placed on loss of a 150 year old family business?

This is a needless project that does nothing more than fuel the greed of Las Vegas casino operators and developers. Conservation and sustainable growth mandates would be a refreshing turn of events for all concerned.

In short, the volumes of information mean nothing. The Right of Way is created by Mr. Reid for his own personal benefit. The long term damage to the environment, the current users of this rangeland, and the citizens of Lincoln and White Pine Counties is immeasurable. The BLM will bend to the will of whoever can put up the most money, and future generations will look at this area of desolation as an example of the greed of this generation.

Thank you for considering these thoughts in your indecision making process.

Bevan Lister, President
Lincoln County Farm Bureau