

## Woods, Penelope D

---

**From:** quartermanjack@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 11, 2011 11:23 AM  
**To:** Woods, Penelope D  
**Cc:** nevadaprojects@blm.gov  
**Subject:** Baker Area Citizens Advisory Board - BLM DEIS comments (Penny\_Woods@blm.gov)



town board - blm deis comments

**Message from quartermanjack@gmail.com:**

Following is our letter stating our comments re: the SNWA Pipeline DEIS. Thank you.

Baker Area Citizens Advisory Board  
Baker, Nevada 89311  
October 11, 2012

Penny Woods, Pipeline Project Manager  
BLM Nevada State Office  
1340 Financial Blvd.  
Reno, NV 89502

Re: Water Pipeline DEIS

Dear Ms. Woods:

The Baker Area Citizens Advisory Board joins the White Pine County Commission in their comments to you regarding the pipeline ROW DEIS. We add the following, specific to our Snake Valley area:

1. **Socioeconomics.** Pipeline will hurt local economy due to decreased visitation because area will become a less desirable place.
2. **Lights (visual resources).** Added lights (at all new facilities and wells) will detract from dark skies.
3. **Senior Water Rights.** Not protected under DEIS. Big Springs has flow eliminated in most of the alternatives, other springs greatly affected. Against NRS. How can BLM have authority to okay a project that will break state statutes?
4. **Pipeline described isn't what it will be.** Groundwater areas are shown to be north and south of Baker, but the pipeline stops south of Baker. Where will it go around? What size? What perennial creeks will be crossed? What cultural areas? SNWA needs to supply more information.
5. **Alternative needed** that won't go into Snake Valley and won't affect Snake Valley resources. Even the LCCRDA option - the one Congress said had to be considered by BLM for pipeline in Lincoln and Clark counties - should have reduced amount of groundwater pumping so it wouldn't affect Big Springs or drawdown areas of Snake Valley. Another alternative should exist that won't take 125+ years of recovery after 75 years of pumping (as mentioned in Section 3.3 and in one of the appendices).
6. **Too much impact to Great Basin National Park,** the area's biggest attraction.
7. **Snake Valley 3M Plan Inadequate,** and makes it sound like private property holders have virtually no say in forming the plan, reviewing it, or making sure that it is implemented correctly. (See appendix B.)

8. **Subsidence.** The DEIS says 525 square miles will subside 5 feet or more. Will this cause the pipeline to break? Decrease property values? Who will pay for damages?
  9. **Dust is a major health hazard.** How will area residents be protected?
  10. **Model only shows drawdown of 10 feet or more.** Local springs, wetlands, even some wells would go dry with a smaller drawdown., More detailed model needed.
  11. **Information in Chapter 2** needs to be more specific so that the DEIS analysis can better specify where wells go, number of wells, size of pipelines, timeline, etc. Information being presented to the State Engineer right now is different than that presented in the DEIS.
  12. **Timeline(s).** Varies in DEIS in different sections, and what is being presented to the State Water Engineer is different that what is in the DEIS. What are the real timelines?
  13. **Why is the Snake Valley ROW** being pursued now before Snake Valley hearing? If an ROW is granted, it could unduly affect the Nevada State Engineer.
  14. **How long will this EIS be good for** - 5 years? 10 years? 20 years? Ready to be pulled off the shelf for SNWA?
- Sincerely,  
Craig Baker  
Chairman  
Baker Area Citizens Advisory Board

Google Docs makes it easy to create, store and share online documents, spreadsheets and presentations.

