



"joyce and robert nickerson "
<nickerson@frontiernet.net>

08/21/2011 06:07 PM

To <Penny_Woods@blm.gov>

cc

bcc

Subject Snake Valley Water Issue

Please see attached Document Regarding SNWA Water Grab.



Thank you for your time ! Water.wps

Penny Woods/Project Manager

BLM Nevada State Office

P.O.Box 12000

Reno, Nv 89520-0006

August 15, 2011

Dear Nevada State BLM,

As a concerned property owner and future businessperson in Baker, Nevada, I am requesting that the Bureau of Land Management give a 90-day extension on the comment period regarding the Environmental Impact Statement on SNWA's \$3.5 Billion pipeline project. I am also, requesting that the BLM support a No Action alternative to this project.

Southern Nevada's rising demands for water has resulted in numerous audacious projects. These demands now challenge Northern Nevada's environmental needs such as sustaining wetlands, ranching, protecting wildlife, future food sources, and Nevada's greatest asset, its scenic beauty. These factors alone will influence the usefulness of SWNA's water plans.

Nevada cannot afford to rely on archaic technology such as dams, pumps and pipelines to satisfy its needs. Southern Nevada must address the issue of water efficiency before depleting the arid North of its limited supply of ground water. SWNA needs to consider new water storage prospects, conservation efforts, desalination, and the most promising solution maybe found in wastewater recycling projects.

Northern Nevada has opposed SWNA's Water Grab for over 22 years. During this length of time, technology and needs have shifted. It is now time for the BLM to stop the madness and support its own mission statement, "to sustain the health diversity and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations." This project will impose harmful irreversible impacts on our public land.

After attending the BLM's EIS hearing in Baker, Nv. on August 3, it became clear that this project would turn into Pandora's Box. Local ranchers such as Dean Baker and Ceil Garland have testified that throughout the years many of their own springs have dried up due to lack of recharge, advance ranching methods, and climate change. The BLM must demand a No Action alternative.

Sincerely,

Joyce Brown Nickerson