

BLM_NV_NVSO_GWProjects

From: Merle Rawlings <merlerawlings@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 09, 2011 12:18 PM
To: BLM_NV_NVSO_GWProjects
Subject: BLM DEIS comment

Many citizens in the valleys to be effected by the SNWA groundwater pumping scheme are concerned about the proposed mitigation process being offered at this time by the SNWA.

Should there ever be a necessity to enter discussions regarding mitigation for any reason, there is little hope that people being shortchanged could receive a fair, impartial hearing about their grievences. The SNWA can and would prolong any hearing process to keep the pipeline filled 24X7. The enormous legal fees alone would be an insurmountable obstacle to farmers and ranchers trying to "have their day in court."

In addition, who pays for the financial costs involved when expert testimony is required to establish a cause and effect relationship like excessive drawdown of irrigation wells for example? How will mitigation prevent a continual drawdown of culinary wells so necessary for citizens in the valleys being pumped by the SNWA? Who pays for the ever increasing costs of deepening water wells and modifying pumping systems due to constantly lowering water tables as a result of SNWAs insatiable pumping program?

After conferring with innumerable citizens in eastern White Pine County (NV) and western Juab and Millard Counties (UT), I have yet to speak with the first citizen who believes the proposed mitigation model will ensure justice and fairness to all parties concerned. Something is terribly wrong here!

The following summarizes the bottom line for people living in any and all the valleys effected by SNWAs proposed pipeline plot: "For us and our children, MITIGATION EQUALS EXTINCTION!!!"

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From: Merle Rawlings <merlerawlings@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 09, 2011 2:46 PM
To: BLM_NV_NVSO_GWProjects
Subject: BLM DEIS comment

Recent press reports have placed the total costs of the proposed SNWA pipeline project in the \$15,000,000,000.00 range. That's more than three times the previously released costs for the pipeline project!

I, therefore, join with an increasing number of citizens who point to the obvious as a way of supplying Las Vegas with more water: Construct a desalinization treatment plant somewhere on the West Coast of California. Give the desalinized water to California and allow Southern Nevada to have a corresponding credit for California water from the Colorado River. The pipeline would never have to be constructed!

The nation of Israel is now constructing a desalinization plant capable of producing 150,000,000 cubic meters of water per year (39,625,807,800 gallons--U.S. fluid). Two of these ultramodern desalinization plants could be constructed for less than one billion dollars! And construction time for a single plant is two years!

The summary of the Israel announcement is highlighted below along with the Internet source of record for your review:

Solution for water shortage

The answer to [Israel's](#) age-old problem of a lack of water appears one step closer to being solved with the announcement that financing has been secured for a \$400 million [desalination plant](#) in **Sorek** in the center of the country. The plant, which will be built by SDL, slated for completion in 2013, will be one the world's second largest plant of its kind, expected to produce 150 million cubic meters of water a year.

<http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-4075028,00.html>

Two modern desalinization plants producing over 80 billion gallons of water per year for less than one-fifteenth of the updated costs for the rancorous, ill-advised SNWA pipeline project and both plants could be constructed in nearly the time it would take to construct the pipeline.

The term, "a no-brainer" could be applied to this choice I believe. I realize SNWA has invested treasure and time in the proposed pipeline project, but isn't it time (past time?) for another look at a solution that would effectively meet the needs of all concerned without further rankling the citizens of two states and dividing the states' populations into warring camps?

Without the blinders of the past 7-10 years, options are available that are far less costly, far more favorable to the priceless aquifers and land of two Western states, and immensely more conducive to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" for all concerned.

Please, let's take another look at the scope of the problem and it's possible options for solution.

Thank you,
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