



CAROLYN G. GOODMAN  
MAYOR

September 27, 2011

REC'D - BLM - NSO  
9:00 OCT 03 2011  
AJL

Penny Woods  
Project Manager  
Bureau of Land Management  
P.O. Box 12000  
Reno, Nevada 89520-0006

Dear Ms. Woods:

I appreciate the opportunity to write in support of the Southern Nevada Water Authority's in-state groundwater development project.

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For most of the last decade, Southern Nevada has worked to reach balance between growing water demands and depleting water supplies. Drought conditions have severely impacted the region's available water resources, and forced the area's managers to reconsider water management approaches.

Managing the needs of the City of Las Vegas requires similar flexibility. I have witnessed this region change—from a community of approximately 200,000 in the mid-1960s to nearly two million residents in 2011. During this period, the City of Las Vegas has overcome many challenges; in part, through our ability to work together as a region to meet the demands of our communities.

The need for a reliable drinking-water supply is a unique constant in this ever-changing city. Local residents, businesses and governments depend on available water resources, as well as 37 million annual tourists to the Las Vegas Strip and surrounding areas. It is difficult to know for certain the implications of a water availability interruption; however, it is easy to predict that the consequences would be great and far reaching.

As drought conditions along the Colorado River persist, so does Southern Nevada's vulnerability to water supply limitations. It is clear that the in-state groundwater development project is necessary, and will provide long-term protection from existing and future drought conditions. For this reason, I support the Bureau of Land Management's proposed action as the preferred alternative for the Groundwater Development Project.

Sincerely,

Carolyn G. Goodman  
Mayor, City of Las Vegas

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