## Solar Power&Water

## November 16, 2011

## How the SNWA groundwater development plan might become moot

Susan Joseph-Taylor Chief Hearing Officer Office of the State Engineer 901 South Stewart Street, Suite 2002 Carson City, Nevada 89701

A mission of SNWA is to provide water for Las Vegas, and Pat Mulroy has been doing an impressive job. SNWA forecasts a need for an additional 400,000 acre ft. per year by 2025. Meanwhile the SNWA groundwater development plan is for a lesser but important amount needed sooner. Latest cost estimate is a more realistic \$15 billion, up from an initial \$2 billion.

We, Solar Power&Water® Inc., are developing our system which will produce electricity and desalinate water. Location is Dome Valley, Arizona, with progress reported at least monthly on our website. http://www.solarpowerandwater.com On February 16, 2006 I presented to the SNWA Board of Directors a plan by which 400,000 afy could be made available based on desalination of Gulf water, but available to SNWA from Lake Mead. Our desalinated water would be delivered to Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District to offset its 400,000 afy of water diverted from the Colorado River. The diversion water would then be released to SNWA. The electric sales companion to the water delivery and sale would make our plan very profitable to SNWA and to Nevada. Our system test and development was delayed 16 months as part of the seven year delay in transferring Reclamation land to WMIDD required by legislation signed by President Clinton in June 2000.

SNWA has spent well over a reported \$80 million on the groundwater plan, and the hours of hearings in Carson for the state engineer are certainly costly. Hearings yesterday focused on massacres of Indians in the 1800s. Our plan should be considered if for no other reason than to allay the development of ulcers by those whose lives would likely be adversely impacted by the ground water development.

Pat Mulroy talks longingly about desalination in Mexico or in California along the Pacific Coast, but costs, politics, and environmental considerations pretty much rule it out. We will be able to circumvent the obstacles.

I am a resident of Reno, but my Garmin thinks home is here in Arizona where our critical development work is underway. I could come to Carson to testify, but this letter may suffice. I hope you and State Engineer Jason King find this information useful.

Best Regards, Richard A McKay

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