

November 30, 2011

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STATE CHIEF OF POLICE

FROM: Teresa Conrad
Eskdale, Ut 84728

TO: Jason King, Nevada State Engineer
Nevada Division of Water Resources
901 Stewart ST., Suite 2002
Carson City, NV 89701

RE: Concerns over the future impact
of potential use of groundwater by SNWA in Spring Valley NV

Dear Sir,

Anyone that lives in a desert knows how crucial water is to the quality of life for all inhabitants. I live in Eskdale and since farming and dairying provide much of the economic base, the need for secure and sustainable water sources is very clear. A drop in our water table would directly impact my life making it difficult—or impossible—to stay in this area I call home. I teach school in Snake Valley and am aware and interested in the opportunities for young people who wish to stay in the area. It seems clear that the greater community present in Snake Valley as well as Spring Valley in Nevada would also experience negative effects. This means that many people who are part of the social and economic network of this rural area—including my friends and family--- could be adversely affected.

Many arguments could be made about the value of the Great Basin desert itself in this area. The area as it now exists is not only valuable and beautiful to the people to live here but also to many others in the world who visit (example: Great Basin National Park). It should always be remembered that “no man is an island”. In other words we are all connected and you really can’t destroy something without it touching the larger world. Please consider very carefully the impact that this expensive and long-lived project could have. There is so much risk presented by this proposed transfer of water-- to the land, the ecology, the economic potential and a whole way of life—and planned with much less than complete geologic and scientific information! And this negative impact would most probably be very long term.

If this project proposed by SNWA is only going to provide a relatively short term solution to providing a secure water supply for Southern Nevada then it seems reasonable to ask your office to encourage SNWA to look in other directions. I ask that you stop or greatly limit the scope of these applications for ground water.

Sincerely,
Teresa Conrad