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STATE ENGINEER

June 16, 2008

Hand-Delivered

Tracy Taylor, P.E.
State Engineer
Nevada Division of Water Resources
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 2002
Carson City, Nevada 89701

State	'S EXHIBIT 16
DATE:	7-15-08

Re: Recognition as Interested Person - Applications 54022 - 54030, inclusive

Dear Mr. Taylor,

I represent Utah County, Utah. Pursuant to NAC 533.100, Utah County hereby requests recognition as an Interested Person with respect to Application Nos. 54022 - 54030, inclusive (the "Applications"). Enclosed is the \$225.00 fee required by NAC 533.100. Pursuant to NAC 533.100(2), Utah County hereby sets forth the following grounds in support of its request for interested person status, and why Utah County did not file a protest to the Applications in a timely manner:

1. Utah County is a political subdivision of the State of Utah, located 44 miles south of Salt Lake City. With over 500,000 people, Utah County is Utah's second most populous county. The County seat is Provo. Utah County includes 2,143 square miles.

2. Utah County is believed to be situated in an air shed such that particulate pollution and dust that may be generated in Snake Valley is carried into the valleys of the Wasatch Front including Utah Valley.

3. The Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) is the successor in interest to the Las Vegas Valley Water District (LVVWD), the entity that filed the Applications.

4. Approximately twenty years ago when LVVWD filed the Applications for Snake Valley, little was known about air quality impacts from large scale groundwater pumping. Hence Utah County, who owned no water rights in Snake Valley, did not believe it was necessary to file protests to the Applications in the required time frame.

5. Since then, experiences in other parts of the country with dust bowls caused by ground water pumping and the resulting air pollution, has caused Utah County to become

concerned about the potential air quality impacts of ground water pumping on the Snake Valley. If the Applications are granted and significant groundwater pumping occurs in Snake Valley that would likely cause the ground water tables to drop significantly enough to destroy the ground water dependent vegetation in Snake Valley, thus creating a dust bowl.

6. Utah County's concerns are amplified by the recent wildfire induced dust bowls in Millard County, Utah (in valleys situated due eastward from Snake Valley) which have produced wind-borne particulate matter pollution that has been carried to Utah County, raising public health concerns for the approximate half million citizens who live and work here. Utah County is concerned that the groundwater pumping that will occur in Snake Valley will produce a permanent dust bowl and provide a permanent source of wind-borne particulate pollution to be carried to the population centers of the Wasatch Front including Utah Valley, causing chronic public health challenges for many of the citizens who live and work here.

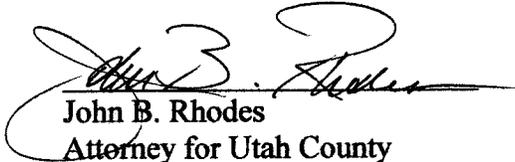
7. Utah County has become so concerned about the potential air pollution impacts from SNWA's proposed Snake Valley pumping, that it has formally requested cooperating agency status in the Nevada BLM NEPA EIS process on the SNWA ground water project.

8. Utah County requests interested person status, in order to advise the hearing officer of the scientific basis for Utah County's air quality concerns, and urge the hearing officer to protect the citizens of Utah County against these potential impacts that will likely result if the Applications are granted.

Based on the grounds set forth above, Utah County respectfully submits that its recognition as an Interested Person in all proceedings to be held on the Applications is equitable and appropriate.

Sincerely,

Rhodes Law Offices, Ltd.


John B. Rhodes
Attorney for Utah County

cc. Utah County Commission
J. Mark Ward, Utah Association of Counties

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