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2009 Sept 21

Ms. Patricia Malroy, General Manager
Las Vegas Water District
Southern Nevada Water Authority
1001 South Valley View Blvd
Las Vegas NV-USA 89153

Tele: 1.800.870.2011

✓ Snake Valley Agreement
c/o: **Utah Natural Resources**
Water Rights Division
1594 West Temple
Suite 220
Salt Lake City UT-USA 84114

Re: Snake Valley Agreement and Las Vegas Water Use

Your (Ms. Malroy) position to acquire and develop water from the Snake Valley Aquifer to supply the wants for the growth and development of Las Vegas and southern Nevada is well understood. You have been tasked with the difficult responsibility for finding and delivering one of the more critical essential resources in a desert environment - water - to an unprecedented perpetually growing social/economic paradigm! And, to deliver that water by the most politically expedient and economically viable and practical means. This could be seen as virtually an impossible task; since, only the Pacific Ocean will provide a sustainable solution - and, even the Pacific Ocean is not infinite.

Infinite growth is impossible within the context of a finite environment, even for a cancer cell. Infinite growth is not sustainable when based on the availability of finite resources, and, water, including the water underlying the Snake Valley, is a finite resource. There is only so much, and, no more! All of the water underlying the Snake Valley could be delivered to Las Vegas and surrounding area, and, given the current political climate in wanting to avoid rectifying the basic fundamental issue, the Las Vegas area would still eventually come back asking for even more.

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Las Vegas and southern Nevada cannot, and will not, grow forever, even if all of the world pipelines feed into the city and area. Eventually, the inevitable conclusion will be realized; and, the question is not one of "if", but, more correctly "when". You are being charged with only finding a temporary reprieve for a continued problem in growth. The Snake Valley Agreement is only a very expensive band-aide solution for a growing problem, with the potential for important side-effects and social/ecological/economic impacts upon the greater environment and other communities, businesses and resources. The Snake Valley Aquifer and Agreement will not provide a cure; but, may provide a temporary solution until you retire or move on from the office, and, then it will all be someone else's problem. The fundamental issue that most people, including you, want to ignore is how to best limit growth, when few people want to recognize the existence of limits.

The answer to Las Vegas area water problems will be in limiting growth in relationship to available resources. Someone has to decide just exactly how much growth can be afforded in a sustainable manner. Infinite growth is not an option. Limits do exist, and, far better to objectively define and build to accommodate those limits in a purely rational and practical manner while still having time and resources to spare than allowing growth to continue until collapse is the only inevitable result. Las Vegas only needs people and leaders with the vision, common sense and courage to say "No, what we have is not sustainable, and, allowing what we have to continue will only make the problems worse, and, even more expensive and difficult for someone else to resolve in the future." People need to understand that infinite growth only leads to a dead-end; and, when limits are exceeded, economies and populations will suffer in many ways and extremes that most sensible people would prefer to avoid.

Las Vegas does not need Snake Valley water; and, the Agreement is no solution for the problem. The Agreement will only promote the problem to continue to fester and cause problems for many other ranchers/farmers and people in other communities. Las Vegas and associated environs, much like a spoiled child, is only living beyond its means, while expecting others to sacrifice their means for Las Vegas's self-serving benefit. Neither the people, Nation or World can afford such luxuries. The lesson here is for all people, not only the people of Las Vegas, to learn - and fully comprehend. A correlated question a concern how much needs to be sacrificed before people are prepared to learn the lessons of reality, or do we simply wander in a perpetual state of ignorance.

You have probably read or heard all of this before. Perhaps, the time is long past to finally start listening. The people of eastern Nevada and southwestern Utah have every just reason to be skeptical of, and object to,

the Agreement. Water is one of the few absolutely critical necessities for life to exist; and, people should be reluctant to trade their birthrights for the glittering lust for gold beckoning on a distant horizon. Glitz and gold has ruined more lives and livelihoods than have ever been saved.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Stu Luttich', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Stu Luttich

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