

September 29, 2009

Snake Valley Agreement  
C/O Utah Dept Natural Resources,  
Division of Water Rights,  
1594 W North Temple, Suite 220  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

Dear Governor Herbert,

Subsequent to the Salt Lake Tribune editorial regarding Snake Valley water and your request to hear from Utahns I am obeying the Governor.

I have followed water issues for a long time and have read much about usage, wasting pollution, division, etc. My concern with Snake valley was begun with articles regarding Las Vegas attempt to "steal" water from Beaver Dam, Arizona which is located @ 8 miles north of Mesquite Nev. When that did not work out they started inch-worming their way in every direction possible and they found a prize in west Utah. I wonder why they did not go for all the water available in their own state in the Ruby Mountain-Ruby Marsh Area? Another area is at the Humboldt sinks, where the Humboldt River, which rises in southern Idaho, disappears south of Lovelock NV

Especially troubling, they want it for development which is not the same as an emergency. They have touted all water saving techniques as a publicity means of hardship. When those in the desert states do nothing to do away with private swimming pools and golf courses for the rich, and have a lot of money sell their desires to an unsuspecting public it does not wash.

I do not believe the P.R. and think tank rhetoric regarding their resolve to stop pumping should the aquifer show stress (water loss) Once the wolf in sheep clothing makes a kill, it is dead. Unless of course the wolves come bearing gifts, MONEY. No amount of money, even if times are hard, is enough to compensate for loss of our most valuable resource.

The matter of dust bowl is not imaginary, each year the world deserts grow by 15,000,000 acres. There are many examples of mans folly regarding water, The Owens valley and Mono lake, Hetch Hetchy in Yosemite a dam for San Francisco, The Sahara once green and forested, The Aral Sea is now DRY. The Oglalla Aquifer once a tried and true source is now in trouble. The ground level in some Arizona areas has sunk 8 feet due to water pumping. The swamps in Florida are now being restored due to the mistake of draining and lastly The Mississippi River, Corps of Engineers and the resulting devastation of New Orleans. All the above have been proven by Geo-Scientific evidence. Utah Lake dried up during the thirties. If one could prognosticate, perhaps we could persuade Las Vegas that Utah Lake would serve their purposes. When it goes dry,

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just think of the development potential and we would save the money for a proposed bridge. Who would not want to live in the prestigious, exclusive, gated LAKE BOTTOM ESTATES

Now to the farmers and rancher who KNOW about water from history & experience. They know about dust storms, drought & hard work. Ask the Native Americans who really know frugality regarding water in Snake Valley. As a child our well went dry and it necessitated carrying in buckets. One sees ads in the newspaper and magazines asking for help to supply water in third world countries. I saw the needy in Guatemala twice while there as a volunteer. The springs and marshes are a gift that Las Vegas no matter how money spent will never equal The food generated from the land is now and will be in the future more valuable than men with big ideas to covet what is not theirs, to convert into a man made crime ridden metropolis, but wait! they have forgotten where they will get food.

The last sentence of the editorial stated, let's give him an earful. Here you have it. Please remember that dust causes snow to melt faster, so there goes the ski industry

Sincerely



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