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GREAT BASIN WATER NETWORK PRESS RELEASE

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SALT LAKE COUNTY, TRIBES, RURAL OFFICIALS OPPOSE CLARK COUNTY LANDS BILL

Baker, NV -- Today the Great Basin Water Network is pleased to announce a growing list of opponents from across the region to the pro-pipeline sections of the Clark County Lands Bill. Known as the Southern Nevada Economic Development and Conservation Act, the measure will authorize a new avenue for the Southern Nevada Water Authority to build its 300-mile water grab pipeline across public lands.

A federal judge found that the current pipeline Right of Way application violates federal law. The proposed bill would provide an end-run for SNWA by exempting the project from bedrock environmental laws and future legal action.

Great Basin Water Network and numerous governments and organizations oppose the pipeline provisions of the proposal—Sections 702 and 703— which advance the SNWA's scheme to send at least 58 billion gallons of groundwater annually from the Great Basin. Governments and Tribes have passed official resolutions opposing the bill, while numerous community groups have written letters of opposition.

The SNWA's water grab would affect resources in Eastern Nevada and Western Utah while SNWA ratepayers would be on the hook for a \$15.5 billion pipeline (2011 dollars). The project would degrade the natural environment and destroy wildlife habitat in places like Great Basin National Park, Moapa National Wildlife Refuge, Pahrnagat National Wildlife Refuge and other public lands and natural resources.

LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENT ENTITIES PUBLICLY OPPOSING THE PRO-PIPELINE SECTIONS OF THE LEGISLATION

- Central Nevada Regional Water Authority (Officials from 8 rural Nevada counties).
- White Pine County Commission, NV
- Salt Lake County Council, UT
- Millard County Commission, UT
- Juab County Commission, UT
- Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation
- Ely Shoshone
- Great Basin Water Network
- Sierra Club -- Toiyabe Chapter

- Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada
- Center for Biological Diversity
- National Parks Conservation Association

“What Clark County is proposing is a pro-pipeline bill,” said Kyle Roerink, executive director of the [Great Basin Water Network](#). “Elected officials, attorneys, and non-profit organizations that span Nevada, Utah and the region all agree: The SNWA wants the congressional delegation to carry its water by surreptitiously advancing a project that has consistently lost in federal and state courts. The Nevada delegation deserves better than sneaky end-runs masked as technicalities. For now, the name of the bill should be the Great Basin Water Grab Act of 2019.”

Contact Kyle Roerink for more details about the wide-ranging opposition and to contact other officials from governmental entities and organizations opposing the pro-pipeline provisions in the bill. And please join GBWN in Ely on November 12 and 13 for oral arguments in our latest round of litigation against SNWA’s pipeline proposal.