



August 6, 2020

Tim Wilson, P .E.  
Nevada State Engineer  
Division of Water Resources  
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 2002  
Carson City, NV 89701-5250

Re: Proposed Order to Designate Basins Within Lincoln County and White Pine County Posted on  
July 9, 2020

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I am writing to urge you to reconsider your decision to hold hearings virtually and not physically in Lincoln County and White Pine County or the basins in these counties proposed to be designated as required by NRS 534.030(2).

The purpose of the hearing as mandated in NRS 534.030(2) is to take testimony from owners of wells in the groundwater basins to determine whether administration of the basins is justified. Scheduling these public hearings on the potential designation of basins to be held by video conference for only an hour or an hour-and-a-half in the morning or middle of the day during irrigation season in mid-August effectively precludes many if not most water rights holders in the basins at issue from participating. Many of the groundwater right holders in these basins do not have internet service. There is no need for these hearings to be held while Emergency Directive 006 is in effect. Any problems with these basins being fully appropriated or nearing that state have been a long time in developing, and they will not significantly change or worsen if you were to wait until the hearings can be held in person.

Please feel free to contact me at 775-443-7667 or ccjfontaine@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jeff Fontaine

Cc: CNRWA Board of Directors