

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 27, 2009

Amy Leuders
Acting State Director
Bureau of Land Management Nevada State Office
P.O. Box 12000
Reno NV 89520

Dear Ms. Leuders:

We are writing to express our concern regarding the proposed Sloan Hills competitive mineral material sale currently under consideration near Sun City/Anthem in Clark County, Nevada. We understand the circumstances of this sale are unique, and, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is required to evaluate the merits of the CEMEX/Service Rock lease due to the terms of arbitration agreement. While, the BLM prepares an environmental impact statement (EIS) to fulfill the requirements of arbitration, we feel compelled to convey our deep concerns over the merits of this project. Recognizing the importance of the mining industry in Nevada, we are keenly aware of the requirements for a responsible mining operation and are concerned that this particular location is not suited to a new aggregate mine.

As mentioned, we fully understand the responsibility of the BLM to conduct comprehensive environmental analysis of potential impacts on the natural and human environment. As you undertake this analysis, we want to draw your attention to the following items that are of concern to us.

The communities most directly impacted by this project are home to many children and elderly residents. Children and the elderly are particularly susceptible to air-quality related respiratory difficulties. This aspect of the proposed project must be considered very carefully. In addition to increased health concerns caused by a deterioration in air-quality, we are also concerned that the addition of particulate matter from a new aggregate mine operating on a continuous basis would result in further difficulties for Clark County to comply with established air quality standards. Adding to the problems associated with increased particulate in the air, an aggregate operation would also add an additional burden to community infrastructure, resources, and possibly public safety.

Not only will large trucks be necessary to move aggregate from the mine through residential neighborhoods, there is also the issue of water usage. Reports have surfaced that the water usage per day could be in the range of 2.3 to 5 million gallons. While the exact quantity of water proposed to be used is unknown, we believe that we must use

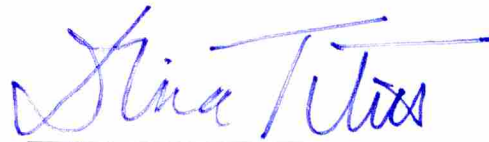
that the water usage per day could be in the range of 2.3 to 5 million gallons. While the exact quantity of water proposed to be used is unknown, we believe that we must use extreme caution when allocating precious water resources in Southern Nevada. Any allocation of water resources must be done in accordance with its highest and best use and we question whether it is appropriate to commit to this project a significant amount of water during an historic drought in Nevada's most populated county.

We want to assure you that we will be following this process closely to insure that our constituents' voices and concerns are heard and their needs prioritized. We stand ready to assist you in any way possible in gathering the necessary information from the concerned citizens we represent. We look forward to working with you to insure that the concerns of all parties involved are heard and considered in the environmental impact statement process.

Sincerely,



Dean Heller
Member of Congress



Dina Titus
Member of Congress