



July 19, 2010

Honorable Senator Harry Reid
Lloyd D. George Building
333 Las Vegas Blvd. South, Suite 8016
Las Vegas, NV 89101

Dear Senator Reid:

Thank you for your leadership and support to create Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument. Both the City of North Las Vegas and Las Vegas recognize the economic and community-building potential this national park unit brings to our cities.

As you may recall, last July North Las Vegas and Las Vegas initiated our first of many meetings to work in partnership to explore the concept of a national monument. By November, we had agreed to endorse the idea and brought in the unanimous consent of our councils, Clark County Commissioners and members of the Paiute Tribe. Since then we have worked with Nevada State Parks, Nellis Air Force Base, conservation and citizen groups, business entities, UNLV and others to define boundaries and discuss details relevant to Congressional legislation.

Notably, everyone has "given some skin" in this process to make this national monument all it can be. North Las Vegas and Las Vegas, in fact, agreed to give up land within the Conservation Transfer Area that had been once considered for development. We did this with belief that this urban national park will attract travelers and encourage spending in our communities, as well as enhance our educational systems and overall quality of life.

After months of discussions and compromise among the groups mentioned above, a strong consensus has developed in support of the national monument, its boundaries and other relevant details. Unfortunately, it appears that one outstanding issue could threaten the months of hard work expended to achieve this consensus. NV Energy is advocating for a transmission line that would carve through this area, adversely impacting the view and limiting the potential of the national monument, the wildlife refuge and the Sheep Mountain Range.

Several power lines are currently located within the proposed boundaries of the national monument. Adding an additional 500 KV power line and a 230 / 138 KV power line would undoubtedly be questioned by the National Park Service, and park lovers throughout the world. NV Energy's proposal does not take into consideration the meticulous planning both cities have undertaken to make this new urban national park unit a world-class destination and our plans to develop surrounding areas to their full economic potential.

NV Energy has been insistent that this proposed transmission corridor is their only option to build reliability and transmit renewable energy. We believe alternatives exist that must be pursued. In NV Energy's Statement of Interest (SOI) Submitted In Response to the Western Area Power Administration's Request for Interest (RFI) dated March 4, 2009, in Governor Jim Gibbons' Nevada Renewable Energy Transmission Access Advisory Committee Phase II Volume 1 Executive Summary and Report dated July 1, 2009, and in the 2009 Status of Energy in Nevada, A Report to Governor Gibbons, transmitted May 26, 2010, another viable transmission corridor that meets NV Energy's stated goals is presented and endorsed as part of NV Energy's plans.

Members of the Councils of both North Las Vegas and Las Vegas have participated in several recent meetings with NV Energy regarding their proposal and to fully understand their needs. NV Energy has not yet provided specific information that would support their proposal, and company representatives have not presented or discussed alternatives.


We firmly believe our long term economic, environmental and community interests are dependent on developing and transmitting clean, renewable, reliable energy and developing world class community amenities. To that end, we pledge our support to work with NV Energy in meeting the community's energy needs while assuring the community realizes the full potential and benefits from the creation of the Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument. Successfully meeting these objectives will significantly contribute to the many reasons why southern Nevada is a world class destination, which is undoubtedly in the best long-term economic interests of NV Energy and the citizens of North Las Vegas and Las Vegas.

In the interest of maintaining the collaborative history of both cities in endorsing and working out details regarding the national monument, we hope that you will intervene with NV Energy and ask that they look to the phases and routes identified in various recent documents, as we pledge to work with the utility company on compatible energy development that does not deface the national monument.

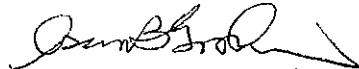
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We thank you for your assistance and support.

Sincerely,



Honorable Shari L. Buck
Mayor
City of North Las Vegas



Honorable Oscar B. Goodman
Mayor
City of Las Vegas

cc: City Council of the City of North Las Vegas
City Council of the City of Las Vegas
Honorable Senator John Ensign
Honorable Congresswoman Shelley Berkley
Honorable Congressman Dean Heller
Honorable Congresswoman Dina Titus