



**DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES**

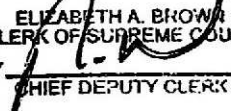
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February 23, 2021

Honorable James W. Hardesty  
Chief Justice to the Nevada Supreme Court  
Nevada Supreme Court  
201 South Carson Street  
Carson City, NV 89701

**FILED**

**FEB 23 2021**

ELIZABETH A. BROWN  
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT  
BY  CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK

Re: Administrative Docket No. 0576

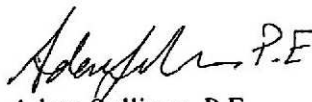
Dear Honorable Hardesty,

The Division of Water Resources wishes to express support for the Petition submitted in Administrative Docket No. 0576 to create a Commission to Study the Adjudication of Water law Cases in Nevada.

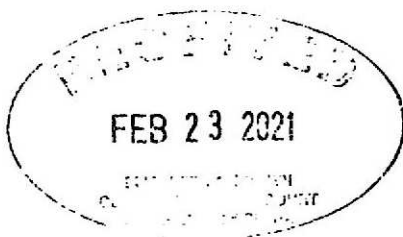
In recent years, the Division has experienced an increase in not only the number but also the complexity of challenges to determinations made by the State Engineer. The State Engineer is bound to make those determinations within Nevada water law, which is a unique, complex and specialized area of the law. Judicial review of those determinations has important consequences for the state's water resources and for Nevada's public, to whom all water in the state belongs. The Division believes that the Petition to create a Commission to Study the Adjudication of Water law Cases in Nevada is timely and warranted.

As set forth in the Petition, the Division is willing to support the Nevada Supreme Court in the study by providing staff support as represented. Additionally, the Division wholly supports the inclusion of a representative of Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada as a participant on the Commission.

Sincerely,

 P.E.  
Adam Sullivan, P.E.  
Acting State Engineer

cc: Bradley Crowell, Director (email)  
Micheline N. Fairbank, Esq., Deputy Administrator (email)



21-05334