



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

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FILED

February 23, 2021

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

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

Re: Administrative Docket No. 0576

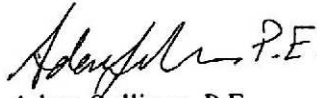
Dear Honorable Hardesty,

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.

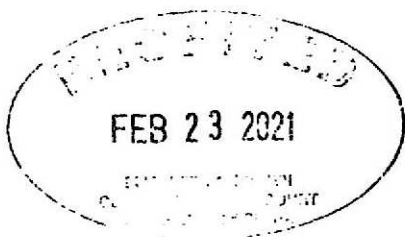
As set forth in the Petition, the Division is willing to support the Nevada Supreme Court in the study by providing staff support as represented. Additionally, the Division wholly supports the inclusion of a representative of Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada as a participant on the Commission.

Sincerely,



Adam Sullivan, P.E.
Acting State Engineer

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



21-05334