## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

CENTER FOR BIOLIGICAL DIVERSITY;
SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY;
LAS VEGAS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT;
MUDDY VALLEY IRRIGATION COMPANY;
COYOTE SPRINGS INVESTMENT, LLC;
LINCOLN COUNTY WATER DISTRICT; APEX
HOLDING COMPANY, LLC; DRY LAKE
WATER, LLC; NEVADA COGENERATION
ASSOCIATES NOS. 1 AND 2; GEORGIAPACIFIC GYPSUM, LLC; REPUBLIC
TECHNOLOGIES, INC.; AND VIDLER
WATER COMPANY, INC.

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Jun 06 2022 10:52 a.m.
Elizabeth A. Brown
Case Merk of Supreme Court
District Court Case
No. A816761

Appellants,

VS.

ADAM SULLIVAN, P.E., NEVADA STATE ENGINEER, DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES, DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES; THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS; SIERRA PACIFIC POWER COMPANY d/b/a/NV ENERGY AND NEVADA POWER COMPANY d/b/a/NV ENERGY; MOAPA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT; CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS; WESTERN ELITE ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.; BEDROCK LIMITED, LLC;

Respondents.

## LINCOLN COUNTY WATER DISTRICT AND VIDLER WATER COMPANY, INC. NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE RESPONSE TO APPELLANT'S EMERGENCY MOTION FOR STAY AND JOINDER

Respondents Lincoln County Water District ("Lincoln") and Vidler Water Company, Inc. ("Vidler") hereby file notice of their intent to file a Response to the Emergency Motion For Stay Under NRAP 27(E) and Joinder filed by the Center for Biological Diversity ("CBD") and urge the Court to deny CBD's request for an immediate stay pending a decision on its Motion for Stay. CBD filed its Emergency Motion for Stay on June 2, 2022, over two weeks after its joinder in Southern Nevada Water Authority's ("SNWA") motion for stay was denied by the district court. CBD's motion is factually and legally inaccurate, including the nature of the alleged emergency. Respondents need adequate time to review the Motion for Stay and prepare their response.

The requested stay would reinstate the State Engineer's illegal Order 1309. As will be shown in Respondents' forthcoming opposition to the Motion, and as already determined by the district court in denying SNWA's motion to stay, it is Respondents, Lincoln and Vidler, and not CBD, who will suffer irreparable harm should Order 1309 be reinstated for the duration of this appeal. There is no grave emergency necessitating an emergency motion. The State Engineer's inability to enforce his illegal and unconstitutional order during the short time it will take for the parties to respond to the motion for stay will not cause irreparable injury to CBD.

Any future harm is purely speculative, and CBD does not even allege any protectable interest it has that may be harmed.

Further, it is not clear CBD is an aggrieved party and has standing to file an appeal of the district court's order vacating Order 1309. CBD filed a petition for judicial review seeking to overturn the 8,000-acre feet annually ("afa") pumping cap in Order 1309. The district court's April 19, 2022 Order vacated Order 1309 including the 8,000 afa pumping cap. CBD has no otherwise legally protectable interest or property right in the maintenance of State Engineer's Order 1309 such that it is aggrieved by the district court's order vacating Order 1309. Lincoln and Vidler will file a motion to dismiss CBD's appeal in short order as CBD's appeal was just determined to be exempt from the Court's settlement program on May 26, 2022. The Court should not issue a stay when the Court's jurisdiction has not been vetted internally or jurisdictional issues as otherwise raised by Respondents are not resolved.

Allowing the State Engineer to continue to enforce an order that he, himself, acknowledged he has no statutory authority to issue, and which violated Respondents' due process rights causes irreparable injury to Respondents. Further, allowing illegal Order 1309, which reprioritizes Respondents' senior water rights in the Kane Springs Hydrographic Basin to junior rights in the combined seven basin Lower White River Flow System, to remain in force during CBD's appeal causes

irreparable injury to Respondents. Respondents' reprioritized water rights cannot be

pumped under the arbitrary 8,000 afa pumping cap established by Order 1309,

causing irreparable harm and damage to Respondents. Finally, Respondents are

irreparably harmed by Order 1309 which does not allow Respondents to use their

most-senior water rights in the Kane Springs Basin without any evidence

Respondents' groundwater pumping in Kane Springs, twenty-two (22) miles away,

is impacting Muddy River surface water rights or the Moapa dace while SNWA's

own undisputed hydrologic analysis shows existing groundwater pumping in close

proximity to the Muddy River is impacting Muddy River flows and the Moapa dace

in an immediate and substantial manner. The district court properly denied the

motion for stay joined in by CBD.

Accordingly, Respondents respectfully request they be provided with

adequate time to file their Response to Appellant's Motion and request for

immediate stay.

DATED this 6<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2022.

LINCOLN COUNTY DISTRICT

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Pursuant to NRAP 25(1)(c), I hereby certify that I am an employee of ALLISON MacKENZIE, LTD., Attorneys at Law, and that on this date, I caused the foregoing document to be served on all parties to this action by:

✓ Court's electronic notification system

as follows:

Paul Taggart Steven C. Anderson Kent R. Robison Hannah E. Winston Bradley J. Herrema William L. Coulthard **Emilia Cargill** Christian T. Balducci Francis C. Flaherty Sarah Ferguson Robert A. Dotson Justin C. Vance Scott Robert Lake Justina Alyce Caviglia Michael D. Knox Gregory H. Morrison Severin A. Carlson Sihomara L. Graves Therese A. Ure Stix Laura A. Schroeder James N. Bolotin Jane Susskind Caitlin Skulan Steven Shevorski Aaron Ford

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DATED this 6<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2022.

/s/ John Brooks JOHN BROOKS