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Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2011 8:50 AM
To: Milton Glick; Marc Johnson
Cc: Jeffrey S Thompson; Jonathan G Price; Geoff Blewitt
Subject: Regrettable budget cuts to NBMG

Dear Drs. Glick and Johnson,

I was alarmed to learn of the plan to drastically cut the budget of the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology (NBMG). As a long-term sponsor of NBMG research activities (at the UNR geodesy group) I am concerned about the potential loss to the Nation and to Nevada of the cutting edge geodetic capabilities developed at NBMG.

NBMG has developed in recent years world-class capabilities in GPS-based geodesy, Earthquake modeling, and natural hazard monitoring (which I was partially involved in sponsoring). These capabilities have been leveraged by NASA (my organization) and other organizations to provide outstanding societal benefits on a global and national scale, as well as for the state of Nevada. It is unfortunate that the investment Nevada and the Federal Government have made in NBMG will now be undermined.

Given Nevada's diverse natural resources and important geohazards it seems shortsighted to cut NBMG's budget so severely, especially since it brings in more external funding than it receives from the state of Nevada.

I am hoping that you will reconsider your NBMG budgetary cuts, which will likely lead to the degradation and even elimination of the world-class geodetic research carried out at NBMG.

Sincerely,

Yoaz Bar-Sever

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