

*(This letter was sent to all of the Regents)*

Dear (Regent's name),

We have been conducting basic geologic research and mapping in Nevada since the late 1980s to better understand its volcanic history and activity. Such understanding provides a space-time framework for exploration of genetically related mineral deposits and geothermal resources. The Bureau has been directly supportive in terms of financial aid and publication of our mapping in the eastern part of the state (NBMG Field Studies Map 7; NBMG Map 114).

In pursuing our research farther west into Nevada we have profited immensely from the geologic maps and basic geologic information that are provided by many of the Bureau's published works. But it has also become apparent that much of the state has inadequate geologic mapping that is needed to evaluate potential mineral and geothermal resources related to volcanism. The Bureau's role in geologic mapping is an absolutely crucial enterprise—one that cannot be adequately shouldered by any other agency or company.

We, therefore, make a plea for Nevada government officials to recognize the benefits, both in the short term and the future, that the Bureau provides for economic development of its rich geologic resources. To reduce its financial backing now would seriously hinder such development.

Respectfully,

Myron G. Best, Professor Emeritus

Eric H. Christiansen, Professor

Department of Geological Sciences

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