SOCIETY OF ECONOMIC GEOLOGISTS, INC.
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March 18, 2011

Dr. Milton Glick, President
University of Nevada, Reno
Mail Stop 001
Reno, NV 89557

RE: Proposal to cut funding for the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology (NBMG)

Dear President Glick,

We understand that on March 7th the University of Nevada, Reno announced that it plans to cut State funding for the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology (NBMG) from $2.1 million per year to $1.0 million. Although it is understandable that cuts are an unavoidable component of a strategy to meet budget targets set by the Governor, we believe reducing funding to the NBMG is not in the best interests of the State of Nevada.

If Nevada were an independent country, it would have one of the worlds largest mining industries. The NBMG provides critical support to that industry in addition to the many services it provides as a state geological survey. Without strong financial support for the NBMG, Nevada risks losing more money, missing further economic opportunities, and inadequately protecting your citizens and visitors as well as they should. NBMG also stimulates economic diversification and development in the State, saves lives, and protects property from natural disasters.

NBMG is the statewide research and public service unit that serves as the state geological survey. NBMG's mission, as defined in its enabling legislation, is to provide the State's needs for geological and energy- and mineral-resource information and research. NBMG scientists conduct research and publish reports that focus on the economic development, public safety, and quality of life in urban and rural areas of Nevada. This is essential for a healthy Nevada economy.

The Society of Economic Geologists (SEG), is one of the worlds leading organizations dedicated to advancing science and discovery in the field of mineral resources. Many of our members live and work in Nevada. We urge you to reconsider budget reductions for the NBMG.

Sincerely,

M. Stephen Enders

M. Stephen Enders, President

cc: Dr. Jeffrey Thompson
Dean, College of Science
Mail Stop 424
University of Nevada, Reno
Reno, NV 89557

Dr. Jonathan Price