



Australian Government

Geoscience Australia

Drs. Glick and Johnson
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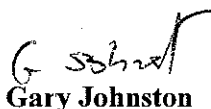
Dear Drs. Glick and Johnson

Re-Proposed Funding Arrangements for UNR and NBMG

I write concerning the proposed funding alterations at your institution, in particular the impact they may have on the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology, including its Geodetic Laboratory. This group of researchers plays a considerable role in advancing the discipline of geodetic science globally. They continue to play a key role in linking geodetic science, reference frame enhancement and techniques specific research (ie GNSS, INSAR etc) with the topical field of natural hazard detection through neo-tectonic monitoring. Some of the techniques developed by this group have been applied internationally and are used routinely to understand the state, including rates of change, of the crust upon which we live.

Nevada, like Australia, is resource rich. It is also challenged by the ongoing drive for sustainable and renewable energy sources. Geoscience Australia's own experience has shown the direct relationship between continued government research funding and sustained industry investment. It is understood globally that resources are becoming harder to find, and more expensive to extract. Government research programs, coupled with industry R&D activities, are required to counter this trend. To this end the continued funding of the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology is encouraged.

Yours Sincerely

 30/3/2011
Gary Johnston

Program Leader
National Geospatial Reference Systems Program
Geoscience Australia
Member of the Global Geodetic Observing System (GGOS) Steering Committee
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