



Via Email and US Mail

March 18, 2011

The Honorable Governor Brian Sandoval
State Capitol
101 N. Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Governor Sandoval:

These are trying economic times. There is no question of necessary cuts to state programs to sustain the State through these difficulties. It is normal that under this stress unwise decisions will be made. Please accept this letter as comment to one such decision which we feel needs be re-evaluated.

The Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology (NBMG) is a premier research institute in a state who is dependent on its natural resources, minerals – ores and fluids, for revenue and jobs. Nevada is the third largest gold producer in the world. Every governor and legislator for the last twenty years has labeled Nevada the world leader in geothermal energy. The mineral industry represents Nevada's gold plated past and the silver lining of our future.

NBMG support of the natural resource industry is a vital contribution to the industries health and growth. Maps, publications, research, and expertise are products and services for which the industry depends on from NBMG. To suggest that this agency and its services to the mineral industry are dispensable suggests a lack of appreciation or understanding of the contribution of the mineral industry to Nevada. We do not think this is a message which we want to send.

It has been suggested that the Net Proceeds of Mines revenue could be allocated to support NBMG. This is a logical suggestion and should be considered in light of the review of the NPM structure. Industry will support such an allocation of the tax. The NBMG budget of about \$2M is surprisingly lean considering its successful service to industry.

We agree that cuts must be absorbed; we question the wisdom of cutting funding to a central industry for Nevada, on which so many jobs depend. We must curtail our spending, but let's do it wisely so that we are not undermining our economic foundation nor hampering our economic recovery.

Sincerely,

RAM POWER CORP.

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