



March 29, 2011

Dr. Jeffrey S. Thompson
Dean, College of Science
MS-0424, University of Nevada
Reno, NV 89557

RE: NEVADA BUREAU of MINES and GEOLOGY

Dear Dr. Thompson:

I am writing to express my support for continued funding of the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology (NBMG). The NBMG is one of the State's most effective bureaus providing important geological, engineering, energy and mineral resource information. The NBMG directly contributes to research and disseminates essential results that are directly applied by the State's leading mining and energy industries. The value of NBMG research extends far beyond the State to the wider academic/research community and to international resource industry scientists. The high-caliber research fostered by the NBMG sustains continued investment by those industries and job creation within the state of Nevada.

Reducing or terminating funding for the NBMG would be a drastic mistake that may achieve a short-term need but will seriously impact long-term economic growth. I urge you to maintain the current level of funding for this important bureau that has contributed so much to the economic viability, public safety, and quality of life in the urban and rural areas of Nevada.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "GS" followed by a stylized flourish that ends in a star-like shape.

Gene Suemnicht.
Chief Geologist