

From: Lynne Volpi [mailto:lvolpi@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Monday, March 14, 2011 5:26 PM
To: info@briansandoval.com
Subject: Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology

Dear Governor Sandoval;

As a double alumna of UNR (BS Geology 1975, MBA 1987), a third generation Nevadan, and a lifelong resident of the Silver State, I would like to express my support for the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology (NBMG).

The University of Nevada, Reno plans to cut NBMG's State funding from \$2.1 million per year to \$1.0 million are not prudent. I believe this is a tragic mistake, because it will mean that Nevada will lose money, miss economic opportunities, and not protect and serve our citizens and visitors as well as we should. NBMG stimulates economic diversification and development in the State, saves lives, and protects property from natural disasters. NBMG scientists conduct research and publish reports that foster economic development, promote public safety, and improve quality of life in urban and rural areas of Nevada.

NBMG is the statewide research and public service unit that serves as the State geological survey. NBMG's mission, to provide the State's needs for geological and energy- and mineral-resource information and research, is defined in its enabling legislation. Established by the Nevada Legislature as a department within the public service division of the Nevada System of Higher Education, NBMG is one of the Statewide Programs at UNR. Although NBMG contributes to the educational mission of UNR through support of numerous graduate and undergraduate students on externally funded research and occasional teaching, NBMG's main contributions are accomplished through research and dissemination of results. NBMG is supplementing its State funding with approximately \$4 million per year in external grants. Nevada stands to annually lose \$2 million or more in additional federal grant funding if NBMG's State funding is cut by \$1.1 million.

I am contacting you to express my perspective on the benefits of NBMG to the State and my support for NBMG. One option that should

be considered is dedicating some of the Net Proceeds of Minerals tax to support NBMG. With the revenue from this tax likely to rise with increasing mineral and energy production, the State could benefit tremendously from dedicating a portion of this revenue to support NBMG.

Regards,
Lynne Volpi
Kestrel Mine Services
Spring Creek, Nevada