



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
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March 29, 2004

Mr. Robert Abbey
Nevada State Director
Bureau of Land Management
P.O. Box 12000
Reno, Nevada 89520-0006

Re: State of Nevada Comments on BLM's Federal Register Notice: [NV-930-1430-ET; NVN-77880; 4-08807] Notice of Proposed Withdrawal and Opportunity for Public Meeting; Nevada (Federal Register Vol. 68, No. 248, December 29, 2003, pages 74965 - 74968)

Dear Mr. Abbey:

Enclosed are the State of Nevada's formal comments on the above-referenced Federal Register Notice. As you will note, the State is recommending that BLM reject DOE's application as premature, unnecessary, unjustifiably broad, and procedurally and substantively deficient.

In the event BLM decides to proceed with the application, in accord with the provisions of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act we are formally requesting that BLM hold at least four public meetings/hearings in the state (in Caliente, Tonopah, Las Vegas, and Reno).

If you have questions regarding the enclosed comments or need additional information, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Loux
Executive Director

RRL/cs
Enclosure

Cc Governor Guinn
Attorney General Brian Sandoval
Nevada congressional delegation
Affected local governments