

# Appendix G

Constituent Online Submissions to Drought Forum  
Provided via [drought.nv.gov](http://drought.nv.gov)

**SUBJECT: Water**

**MESSAGE:** I think the state or combined governments of our communities should raise funding to create a desalinization facility on the coast of California and send water via pipeline to some of our reservoirs here in the state and have an unlimited supply of water. Once created and paid for, it will enable us to have water resources for years to come no matter what weather has in store for us.

**SUBJECT: Water shortage**

**MESSAGE:** I hate to sound silly, but how much water would be saved if compost toilets were allowed (or required) in houses? Why do we continue to use drinking water for waste disposal? How about developing a program for disposal of compost toilet material? Shouldn't we be thinking about getting cities, counties...to think differently? Your faced with these issues that aren't going away soon. Implementing some of the restrictions like California might be in order too. I don't like extra restrictions, but more then willing to do my part.

**SUBJECT: Nevada Drought?**

**MESSAGE:** Hello, my name is (removed) and I'm a freshman at the University of Nevada, Reno. I moved to Nevada from California almost 1 month ago. I used to live in a small farming town called Brentwood, about 50 minutes east of San Francisco and about 10 minutes west of the San Joaquin Valley. As I'm sure you know, Governor Jerry Brown declared our drought as a state of emergency and put us on strict water restrictions. Due to my close proximity to both the Valley and the Delta, our city required a larger amount of water savings, and even gave us cash rewards if we met their goals. I got in such a great habit of always saving water that it was quite a shock to come to Nevada and not have any water restrictions. I was surprised that Nevada wasn't in a drought, I had heard about the lack of snowfall and I had always imagined Nevada as a giant desert. After a little research I found that Nevada is in a just as bad, if not worse, drought than

California. The only difference? It has not been declared a state of emergency. Everybody I talk to from California says how great it is living in a state that isn't in a drought: they get to lay in green grass (a luxury we get fined for back home), they get to take 30 minute showers (6 times longer than the recommended max in Brentwood) and there's always a set of sprinklers on somewhere on campus. Since being in Nevada I have noticed my own habits change, even with the knowledge that we are in a drought. I leave the water running while brushing my teeth, I let the shower in my dorm warm up before getting in, I've even flushed a tissue down the toilet instead of just throwing it away. I've even stopped noticing the small things around campus— they water the grass at the hottest time of the day, even thought that wastes the most water—things that during my first week I found appalling. My question for you, whomever it may concern, is: Why is the Nevada drought not a state of emergency? I can speak from personal experience, when you have the state telling you that you need to conserve water people tend to take it a bit more seriously. Food for thought.

**SUBJECT: Solution to Drought in Lake Mead**

**MESSAGE:** With Lake Mead having a drought we need to get a solution to fix it. My idea will help fill up Lake Mead and build the economy. It will also help California with their drought. We need to build at least four huge water condensers & four large canals. They would be built on the ocean of Northern California and run to Las Vegas, Nevada. The canals could provide water to communities and new communities in California on the way. There would need to be more than two canals because if one needed to be serviced you could use the others. Since there are more than two canals if one needs to be repaired you could use the other ones. It would need to be powered by nuclear energy, because it's the most efficient and clean energy. It wouldn't add to greenhouse gasses and you'd have the least amount of byproduct. You could sell the excess power to pay off the project and the operation of the canals. The canals will build up towns and farming because there would be access to water. This would bring communities around the canals as well. It would also bring commerce and build the economy on a large level.

The canals would lead to the Colorado River and it would help to raise Lake Mead's water levels.

**SUBJECT: Water Storage**

**MESSAGE:** I don't know if you keep a running list of suggestions and possible solutions, but regarding additional storage one possible long term solution would be the collection of monies to fund drought improvements, collecting from new commercial/business developers/developments. These earmarked funds could go into a state account (allocated by area or region?) to fund future reservoirs, tanks, basins, dams and similar structures at the local or regional level. With state oversight and local area fund designation, priority infrastructure could be constructed. Simple and less expensive infrastructure—collection of flood waters in wash areas—might be a good starting point.

**SUBJECT: Desalination**

**MESSAGE:** I have submitted a suggestion to the drought forum and the attached diagram might help to understand it. While we have no access to the Pacific Ocean, Ca. does. With what the diagram references, the sea water moving through the membrane should have little cohesion. This is because the water in the pressure heads would be placing a load on the water being desalinated. And when moving the water, the columns of fresh water and brine would counter balance the sea water being lifted. Of course, if this works, then restricting the water flowing to the membrane might have the same effect as what pressure heads create. And if this is an improvement compared to using 600 to 1,200 psi, then Ca. might become less dependent on the Colorado River allowing us and Az. to have some relief. And if moving water across Ca. were to become necessary, then pipes 2 to 3 feet in diameter might help to provide needed relief. And in some ways, the drought we are facing does seem to be a regional problem.

**SUBJECT: HOA Requirements**

**MESSAGE:** I am concerned that so many housing developments, both new and existing, mandate that residents keep lawns in their front yards. It seems to me that every housing development should, by law, offer both xeriscape and lawn

options. I asked about this at the City of Sparks, and they said that "HOA or CCRs are a civil contract between property owners and are not at the discretion of local or state government." With the latest housing boom, there will be thousands of new homes. Nearly all of them will have mandatory grass in the front yards. Is there anything we can do to make housing developers offer a xeriscape option? Another thought: The Nevada Drought Forum could work to convince homeowners who are not at the mercy of CC&Rs to get rid of their lawns and either xeriscape or grow food in their front yards.

**SUBJECT: Houses**

**MESSAGE:** I am e-mailing you to step in, and stop the building of houses in the Las Vegas and surrounding areas..... Lake Mead is low enough!!! How much lower does it need to get, to get you guys to realize you messed up?? More houses = more showers, more laundry being done, we get our water supply from Lake Mead.... What's going to happen when that water is gone???? I strongly urge you, to stop worrying about the \$\$\$ and worry about the people you have now...

**SUBJECT: Building**

**MESSAGE:** Why are we building thousands of homes in SO. NV, when we have no water. We keep hearing about saving our water because there isn't any and in 10 years we will be out of water, so why in my neighborhood are they building a new community of over 500 homes? If they sell these homes today then in 10 years the owners will have to forfeit them. It's hard to ask me to reduce my water intake when the government is reckless with our water. Why is this happening? Please tell me?

**SUBJECT: Building**

**MESSAGE:** We are running out of water here in Southern Nevada, why are builders allowed to keep building??? We need to stop this until a solution to the water shortage is found. Please help us in Southern Nevada! We don't need anyone else here with this situation.

**SUBJECT: Saving Water**

**MESSAGE:** I live in a house that has about 2500 square feet in it. The bathrooms and showers are

in the back and the water heater is in the garage, where most of them are. How long does it take for hot water to get to the showers? Just about a gallon and a half and where does it go? Down the drain. Most hotels, motels, and Hospitals have hot water recirculating systems. Turn on the hot water and you have it within seconds. Why can't houses built in Nevada have this type of systems installed during construction? Why can't counties require the system be installed during the replacement of a Hot Water Tank? How many showers do most people take in a weeks time. One person may run down a gallon or two to get hot water. Then another person comes along later and does the same thing. The State could save about 1000 to 1400 gallons of water per week per house hold. That is a lot of water. We are in a drought condition, why not make it a state law to have hot water recirculating systems installed in every new house built and installed when a Hot Water Tank is replaced?

**SUBJECT: Building**

**MESSAGE:** I would like to know if we are in a drought, then why is Henderson building about 500 new homes within a 5 mile radius of my home. They city tells me that they will not be using much water because of the drought plants they will be using. I don't believe this as I am not watering any plants at my home and I USE WATER. These are not like studio apt they are 4 and 5 bedroom homes. If they say within 10 years we will be out of water, then isn't this not fair to the new home buyers who get a 30 year mortgage and in 10 years will have to leaving their homes owing money? If there wasn't a large surplus of empty homes in the immediate area then I can somewhat see the need for new homes. On my block alone there are 4 empty homes looking for buyers. It seems to me that the state is not looking for the welfare of it's citizens, only looking to make money. Please explain why this was allowed. The city says the state wants more homes, does the state know where the water is coming from. I as a homeowner would like to know, as I have already invested in a home 21 years ago and would like to live here longer than 10 more years with knowing the state looked ahead to make sure I would have water and other resources to continue my living

here. So why at this time are 500 homes being built near me. Who knows the exact number of new homes are going up in the Vegas valley, that they will be no water for. And since we are on a drought situation, exactly how much am I going to have to pay extra because of these new homes using water we don't have. Can you explain why someone gave the approval for all these new homes, not just the 500 near me but for the entire Vegas Valley?

**SUBJECT: Water Conservation**

**MESSAGE:** As the owner of 3 Las Vegas properties, I want to know if the Governor and/or the State Legislature can direct (mandate or otherwise) that Homeowner Associations' cut in half, the required minimum green-coverage of home lots. This is a terrible waste of water, maintaining these minimums even using desert plantings.

**SUBJECT: Water**

**MESSAGE:** Over the past couple of decades the southwestern United States has been dealing with the growing issue of water shortages. Increases in population growth, agriculture, and the drought have already begun to affect quality of life and the economy of the region. Plans to limit and cut water to agriculture will undoubtedly have negative effects to the economy across the entire United States. This I'm sure you already are well aware of. Water conservation efforts are fantastic. We all need to do our share to preserve fresh water and make decisions based on sustainability. However, I believe the focus now needs to be on the issue at hand.

**THE ISSUE:** Plain and simple, there is not enough fresh water in the southern United States to allow for the continued population, agricultural, and economic growth that the United States will need in the future. The focus: Identify water sources and make them available to the areas that need them. The idea: I'm advocating a program similar to that of the Central Arizona Project (CAP) be constructed that will bring water from Lake Michigan to Colorado via canals and empty into the Colorado River. Bringing water from the largest source of fresh water in the United States

to the areas that need it makes sense. Currently the Colorado River supplies Nevada, Southern California, Arizona, and Mexico with fresh water. Demands on the river have reduced the flow to a trickle by the time it reaches Mexico. Lakes Mead and Powell are at their lowest point on record and continue to dwindle. Sound absurd? Possibly. There are a million reasons why it wouldn't work I am sure. But, what if? The Central Arizona Project consists of 380 miles of canals that is supplying water across Arizona and was built at a cost somewhere in the neighborhood of \$3.8 billion. The Project was also eventually to have served New Mexico as well. The distance from Lake Michigan to Colorado is roughly 1,100 miles. If a canal could be introduced it could service the southern US and in years where the west received ample snow and rainfall the water could be 'dropped off' along the route in the mid-west as well with an affect of opening up new agricultural corridors. Our country needs projects that build infrastructure and that will sustain our economics and population long term. A project on this magnitude will directly put thousands of Americans to work for decades to come and open up an economic boom for all areas that it would service. The western United States is fast approaching its growth potential for the simple fact that there will not be enough fresh water to allow for growth. A project such as this could be a catalyst that would benefit the country for centuries.

**SUBJECT: Ground water and water rights**

**MESSAGE:** During this time of drought, I understand that we must protect our water, but I think that the state in trying to reclaim some water rights of unused or unproven rights is backfiring. I have noticed that I live in Palomino Valley fields that have been fallow for several years are now in production. I believe that this is due to threats of water rights being removed due to nonuse, those rights are owned by people who don't want to lose them so they start using them to comply with the state. Increasing ground water usage in this time of drought. I believe that your office should issue a stay on these rights that are not proven water rights and while identifying them and keeping them fallow and non transferable till the drought is over.

My idea is all water rights that don't meet water usage requirements would be put on hold till the drought is over with the state agreeing not to remove rights till a set period of time after the drought is over and said water rights are still unused. This would allow the state to save ground water and control water rights while allowing water right owners the future chance to prove up on those rights.

**SUBJECT: WATER SHORTAGE**

**MESSAGE:** Just walked by a large park next to our little enclave; sprinklers all over the place just pouring out water in a desperate attempt to keep the grass a luscious green in August in the desert of Las Vegas. Despite this waste, there are still streaks of yellow throughout the park and this attempt is futile. Whether here in Nevada or over there in California, I believe it's time for the media to live up to its' responsibility to the citizens of these states and lead the charge: OUTLAW ALL NATURAL GRASS in Nevada and California...and I don't mean marijuana. Please, before it's too late.

**SUBJECT: Rain making over lake mead**

**MESSAGE:** Just curious from a Los Angeles resident. If when clouds pass over the lake mead that you might ask either the Nevada Air National Guard or the USAF to make a few short supersonic passes directly over the clouds on the lake.. or beside the clouds. The shock wave bouncing thru them might cause an instant cloudburst over the lake.. I was also hoping to mention that looking at the way the flood waters get into Las Vegas and other Nevada towns.. working in the arroyos to dig cross trenches in them.. will reduce flash flooding.. this could be done with a single excavator.. in just a few days.. working upstream.. the excavator digs across the bottom.. sets the soil off to the side.. depending on the width of the arroyo... perhaps a pair of dump trucks.. to transport it to the edge.. when the flash flood starts . the first excavation is filled. then the next then the next.. with enough.. very little flood water will reach into town.. it will also soak into the ground to recharge the groundwater .. the diggings could also be screened and separated to sell to the building materials companies. sand, gravel, river rocks are all how far out up the arroyo this would need to be done i

don't know. it depends on the watershed above it.. the holes should not have steep sides.. just 8 to 10 feet below the arroyo bottom..

**SUBJECT: Water**

**MESSAGE:** Vacationing in Midway AR where my dad lives on Bull Shoals Lake. This is one of many reservoir lakes on the White River. This lake is in my estimation over 50' above normal level and its a big lake. There has to be in my wild guess trillions of gallons of excess water sitting here plus all the other lakes worth waiting to slowly drain away-this is the last lake in the chain and they are all full-perhaps a pipe line to your state would be a win win-they could use \$\$ here and you desperately need the water-a pipeline perhaps? This water plus all the other excess water between here and there could probably keep Lake Mead full (pipeline would be easy compared to Hoover dam) Just an idea...

**SUBJECT: Drought Solution**

**MESSAGE:** There is a relatively simple way to bring water to the drought areas of the US. Hydrolyse water where it is plentiful, using electricity to split it into hydrogen and oxygen. Then piping the hydrogen where water is needed. When the hydrogen is burned using oxygen from the atmosphere, pure water is the product. 100% pure. When this water is formed, the resulting heat can be used to drive power plants, recovering some of the electrolysis energy. Either seawater or fresh water can be hydrolysed, fresh being the easier of the two. A grid of high pressure hydrogen pipes throughout California and the SW US would allow water to be available where needed. A hydrogen grid would also allow for hydrogen refueling stations for hydrogen cars and trucks. Mountains do not present the same barrier as pumping water when hydrogen is piped. Water could be redistributed from the SE US to the drought zone. Relatively quick to set up with simple technology.

**SUBJECT: Water in Southern Nevada**

**MESSAGE:** I understand you going to be hosting the water conference, and I would love to put my input into solving a few thing that would help Southern Nevada in conversing our natural

resource. Limit the amount of building permits in the area, and then you will see property prices starting going up, and water usage start to stabilize. If you look at real estate prices in Boulder City compared to Henderson, it's because of the building permits limits in that city. Perhaps, it's time to put a folk into the City commissioners in Las Vegas, and tell them to stop the growth of this city. This is my two cents.

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**MESSAGE:** I think the state or combined governments of our communities should raise funding to create a desalinization facility on the coast of California and send water via pipeline to some of our reservoirs here in the state and have an unlimited supply of water. Once created and paid for, it will enable us to have water resources for years to come no matter what weather has in store for us.

**SUBJECT: current Water issue**

**MESSAGE:** May I suggest thinking out of the box regarding the water issue for a moment and consider the use of solar panel units powering commercial size dehumidifiers and then using that set up to collect water out of the atmosphere. I got this idea watching the air conditioner unit on top of my home drain water from the atmosphere on humid days. I've also heard about a similar kind of program either being developed or is currently under use somewhere in the Middle East. I understand Bedouin use the devices to harvest water in the desert to support themselves. Why are we are actually at that point, how much water could be saved being drained from Lake Mead to create power if we could replace that power from a collection of solar panels. If for example, Nevada power would adopt a new business operation plan that would include helping every homeowner in the city put panels on their home to generate electricity, a cooperative venture could be formed between citizens of the city and the power company forming a Co - op program so that we act as one unit selling power to other cities and states. the power unit on Lake Mead could be shut down and subsequently the water would begin to rise by non use. please understand I don't know a lot about the other areas of the topics,

like considerations of those needing water down river. just trying to offer a couple of ideas thinking out of the box. Who knows, sometimes when you brainstorm, a silly idea that won't be used, could lead someone into thinking of an actual plan that would work. Best of luck to all who are working on this very important topic for all of us who calls Nevada home.

**SUBJECT: Drought**

**MESSAGE:** One thing not mentioned in an article I read about your Water Meeting, tho it looked like it might be. When your water is metered and you're asked to cut x% from the year before....it would be extremely helpful to have that info on the bill instead of having to find previous bills to see what you need to do.

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