

Scott B. McElroy
Alice E. Walker
GREENE, MEYER & McELROY, P.C.
1007 Pearl Street, Suite 220
Boulder, CO 80302
303/442-2021

Kelly R. Chase
P.O. Box 2800
Minden, Nevada 89423
775/782-3099

Attorneys for the Walker River Paiute Tribe

Greg Addington
Assistant United States Attorney
Susan L. Schneider
Department of Justice
Environmental and Natural Resources Div.
999 - 18th Street, Suite 945
Denver, Colorado 80202
303/312-7308

Attorneys for the United States of America

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

WALKER RIVER PAIUTE TRIBE,

Plaintiff-Intervenor,

vs.

WALKER RIVER IRRIGATION DISTRICT,
a corporation, et al.,

Defendants.

IN EQUITY NO. C-125

and

Sub-file No. C-125-B

**NOTICE OF FILING OF
SUPPLEMENTAL AFFIDAVIT
REGARDING THE
OBJECTION OF THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA AND THE
WALKER RIVER PAIUTE TRIBE TO
THE REPORT AND
RECOMMENDATION OF U.S.
MAGISTRATE JUDGE REGARDING
CERTIFICATION OF DEFENDANT
CLASSES**

BY
DEPUTY

LANCE S. WILSON
CLERK

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FILED

The United States of America and the Walker River Paiute Tribe ("Tribe") have filed their objections to the *Report and Recommendation of U.S. Magistrate Judge* (Sept. 13, 2001) ("Report and Recommendation"), recommending denial of the *Joint Motion of the United States and the Walker River Paiute Tribe for Certification of Defendant Classes* (May 4, 2001) ("Joint Motion"). *Objection of the United States of America and the Walker River Paiute Tribe to the Report and*

Recommendation of U.S. Magistrate Judge Regarding Certification of Defendant Classes (Oct. 26, 2001) ("Objection"). Attached is a Supplemental Affidavit of paralegal Dennis Becker ("Jan. 8, 2002 Aff."), who has been working on the identification of the persons and entities to be served under paragraph 3 of the *Case Management Order* (Apr. 18, 2000) ("CMO").

The purpose of this supplemental affidavit is to provide the Court with additional information regarding the potential numbers of persons and entities within the Nevada sub-basin domestic groundwater user group identified in CMO category 3(c). The supplemental affidavit demonstrates that the number of persons and entities who would be potential defendants in this case based in whole or in part on their status as domestic users of groundwater is higher than prior numbers and estimates reported to the Court. As stated previously, we anticipated that the numbers of potential defendants would increase because the work on identifying potential defendants was ongoing and several sources of information had been located but not reviewed in depth. *E.g.*, Objection at 7. The attached supplemental affidavit confirms these prior statements. Further, as set forth in the attached affidavit, this work remains ongoing and even the current numbers will increase. Thus, the numerosity factor of the determination whether to certify defendant classes is even higher.

First, as of January 7, 2002, Mr. Becker has identified 1514 domestic well owners. Jan. 8, 2002 Aff. ¶ 4. For 1137 well owners of this total, he has, thus far, discovered no other water rights claims. *Id.* This total also includes 598 domestic well owners identified from his ongoing review of the February 2001 Lyon County Assessors Office list of property owners in Lyon County. *Id.*

Second, Mr. Becker is in the process of reviewing the February 2001 Lyon County Assessors Office list of property owners in Lyon County. *Id.* ¶¶ 5-7. This list identifies 6,120 parcels and

identifies parcels with domestic wells. *Id.* ¶ 5. Thus, far, Mr. Becker has reviewed approximately 37% of the Lyon County list, and identified 598 persons and entities whose status as domestic users of groundwater was not previously known to him. *Id.* ¶ 6. Of this number, he had already identified 187 persons and entities because he had already identified them as holders of water rights claims under other categories in the CMO. *Id.* However, 411 of these persons and entities were not previously known to him. *Id.*

Thus, Mr. Becker has currently identified 1514 persons and persons and entities who would be included in this case as defendants under category 3(c) of the CMO as domestic users of groundwater. *Id.* ¶ ¶ 4, 8. Moreover, Mr. Becker estimates that at this rate, his review of the Lyon County list could add approximately an additional 1,100 additional domestic users of groundwater to the numbers of potential defendants within that portion of category 3(c) of the CMO for which we seek class certification. *Id.* ¶ 7. Therefore, he estimates that there could be at least 2,600 persons and entities who are domestic users of groundwater and would be among the defendants to be served in this action. *Id.* ¶ 8.

Dated this 9th day of January, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Addington, Assistant United States Attorney
Susan L. Schneider, Trial Attorney
U.S. Department of Justice
Environmental and Natural Resources Div.
999 - 18th Street, Suite 945
Denver, Colorado 80202
303/312-7308

By: A. L. Schneider
Susan L. Schneider

Attorneys for the United States of America

Dated: 1-09-02

Respectfully submitted,

Scott B. McElroy
Alice E. Walker
GREENE, MEYER & McELROY, P.C.
1007 Pearl Street, Suite 220
Boulder, Colorado 80302
303/442-2021

Kelly R. Chase
P.O. Box 2800
Minden, Nevada 89423
702/782-3099

By: Alice E. Walker
Alice E. Walker

Attorneys for the Walker River Paiute Tribe

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that on this 9th day of January, 2002, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing NOTICE OF FILING OF SUPPLEMENTAL AFFIDAVIT REGARDING THE OBJECTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE WALKER RIVER PAIUTE TRIBE TO THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE REGARDING CERTIFICATION OF DEFENDANT CLASSES by first-class mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the following persons:

Greg Addington
Assistant U.S. Attorney
100 West Liberty Street, Suite 600
Reno, NV 89509

George N. Benesch
P.O. Box 3498
Reno, NV 89505-3498

Kenneth Spooner
General Manager
Walker River Irrigation District
P.O. Box 820
Yerington, NV 89447

Gary Stone
United States District Court Water Master
290 South Arlington Avenue, 3rd Floor
Reno, NV 89501

John Kramer
Department of Water Resources
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Hugh Ricci, P.E.
Nevada State Engineer's Office
123 West Nye Lane
Carson City, NV 89710

William Quinn
U.S. Department of the Interior
Office of the Solicitor
401 W. Washington St., SPC 44
Phoenix, AZ 85003

Robert L. Hunter
Western Nevada Agency
Bureau of Indian Affairs
1677 Hot Springs Road
Carson City, NV 89706

R. Michael Turnipseed, P.E.
Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources
State of Nevada
123 West Nye Lane
Carson City, NV 89710

Alice E. Walker
Scott B. McElroy
Greene, Meyer & McElroy, P.C.
1007 Pearl Street, Suite 220
Boulder, CO 80302

Matthew R. Campbell
David Moser
McCutchen, Doyle, Brown & Enerson
Three Embarcadero Center
San Francisco, CA 94111

Ross E. de Lipkau
Marshall, Hill, Cassas & de Lipkau
P.O. Box 2790
Reno, NV 89505

Mary Hackenbracht
Deputy Attorney General
State of California
1515 Clay Street, 20th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-1413

Jim Shaw
Chief Dep. Water Commissioner
U.S. Board of Water Commissioners
P.O. Box 853
Yerington, NV 89447

Kelly R. Chase
P.O. Box 2800
Minden, NV 89423

Michael W. Neville, Depty. Attny. Gen.
California Attorney General's Office
455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000
San Francisco, CA 94102-3664

Marta Adams
Deputy Attorney General
State of Nevada
100 North Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

Treva J. Hearne
Zeh, St. Aubin, Spoo, & Hearne
575 Forest Street, Suite 200
Reno, NV 89509

Hank Meshorer
United States Department of Justice
Natural Resources Division
Ben Franklin Station
P.O. Box 7397
Washington, D.C. 20044-7397

Linda A. Bowman
Debra B. Robinson
Bowman & Robinson
540 Hammill Lane
Reno, NV 89511

Daniel N. Frink
Water Resources Control Board
State of California
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 94814

Gordon H. DePaoli
Dale E. Ferguson
Woodburn and Wedge
6100 Neil Road, Suite 500
P.O. Box 2311
Reno, NV 89511

Craig Alexander
U.S. DOJ, ENRD, Indian Resources Section
P.O. Box 44378
L'Enfant Plaza Station
Washington, D.C. 20026-4378

Lou Leonard
U.S. Dept. of the Interior, Office of the
Secretary, Division of Indian Affairs
1849 C Street, N.W.,
Mail Stop 6456
Washington, D.C. 20240


Yvonne Marsh, Legal Support Assistant

Scott B. McElroy
Alice E. Walker
GREENE, MEYER & McELROY, P.C.
1007 Pearl Street, Suite 220
Boulder, CO 80302
303/442-2021

Kelly R. Chase
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) IN EQUITY NO. C-125

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) **SUPPLEMENTAL AFFIDAVIT**

) **REGARDING THE**

) **OBJECTION OF THE UNITED**

) **STATES OF AMERICA AND THE**

) **WALKER RIVER PAIUTE TRIBE TO**

) **THE REPORT AND**

) **RECOMMENDATION OF U.S.**

) **MAGISTRATE JUDGE REGARDING**

) **CERTIFICATION OF DEFENDANT**

) **CLASSES**

) **Exhibit 1: Affidavit of Dennis Becker**

I, Dennis Becker, hereby make the following declaration pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746. The following statements incorporate and supplement statements made in my previous and supplemental affidavits of March 9, 2001, March 19, 2001, June 12, 2001, and October 24, 2001.

Affidavit, Dennis Becker, January 8, 2001
page 1

1. My primary assignment in this matter has been to work on the identification of the persons and entities described in the categories in paragraph 3 of the *Case Management Order* (Apr. 18, 2000) ("CMO") for purposes of conducting court-ordered service on them as counter-defendants.
2. My affidavit of October 24, 2001 ("Oct. Aff.") was filed as Exhibit 1 to the *Objection of the United States of America and the Walker River Paiute Tribe to the Report and Recommendation of U.S. Magistrate Regarding Certification of Defendant Classes* (Oct. 26, 2001). In that affidavit, and based on the status of my work at that point, I provided information on the number of persons and entities with claims to water in the Walker River Basin who are within CMO categories 3(a) and/or 3(c), which constitute the basis for two class certification proposals by the United States and the Walker River Paiute Tribe. I also provided information on the whereabouts of these persons and entities; a significant number of these persons and entities identified thus far are not located throughout the Walker River Basin. Oct. Aff. ¶ 4.
3. The purpose of the instant affidavit is to supplement my prior affidavits to provide the Court with additional information regarding the potential numbers of persons and entities within the Nevada sub-basin domestic user group identified in CMO category 3(c). This is the only category in the CMO that includes domestic users. This information is based on my continuing work. As I have stated in my prior affidavits, there were a variety of information sources that I had identified but not yet reviewed

and I anticipated that the total numbers of persons and entities in this and other CMO categories would increase based on a review of these other information sources. Based on my ongoing work, it appears that the potential numbers of domestic users to be served is much larger than prior estimates.

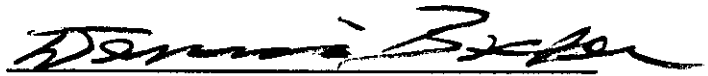
4. As of January 7, 2002, I have identified 1514 domestic well owners. Of these, 1137 have no other water rights. This number includes the 598 domestic well owners information from the Lyon County Assessors Office list of property owners discussed below.
5. In connection with this assignment and beginning on December 11, 2001, I have been reviewing the February 2001, Lyon County Assessors Office list of property owners in Lyon County. Lyon County listed 6,120 parcels at the time the list was compiled. This list indicates parcels with domestic wells located on them.
6. As of January 7, 2002, I have reviewed 2,300 of the 6,120 parcels on the Lyon County list -- or roughly 37% of this list. Many of the parcels are jointly owned by husband and wife or a trust having co-trustees. During my review, I discovered 598 domestic well owners not previously known to me as owners of domestic wells on approximately 26% of the 2,300 parcels reviewed. Of these 598 domestic well owners, 187 (on approximately 8% of the parcels reviewed) are persons and entities already known to me because I have already found that they have water rights claims under other categories in the CMO. However, the remaining 411 (on approximately

18% of the parcels reviewed) persons and entities were not previously known to me as water rights claimants and are additional and newly-identified potential counter-defendants.

7. I have not finished my review of the Lyon County list. If the remainder of the list provides a similar percentage of newly identified well owners identified as holding other water rights and potential counter-defendants not previously identified, I estimate that this list of parcels may yield a total of almost 1700 potential counter-defendants, including the 490 previously identified potential counter defendants holding other water rights and 1,100 new potential counter-defendants not previously identified as water rights holders.
8. Based on the information described above, the number of individuals and entities within the domestic portion of Category 3(c) is clearly higher than prior estimates, and will only increase further. Based on the numbers of well owners identified thus far (1514) and the number of well owners I have estimated are in the Lyon County portion of the list I have not yet reviewed (1,100), I estimate that there are at least 2600 persons and entities who are domestic users of groundwater and would be among the defendants to be served in this action.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America and the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct. Further, affiant sayeth not.

Executed this 3th day of January 2002.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis Becker", written over a horizontal line.

Dennis Becker