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GORDON H. DePAOLI  
State Bar No. 000195  
DALE E. FERGUSON  
State Bar No. 004986  
WOODBURN and WEDGE  
One East First Street  
Suite 1600  
P.O. Box 2311  
Reno, Nevada 89505  
Telephone: (702) 688-3000  
Attorneys for the  
WALKER RIVER IRRIGATION DISTRICT

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-ECR  
SUBFILE NO. C-125-C  
  
**MOTION TO REQUIRE  
MINERAL COUNTY TO  
IDENTIFY AND FILE A  
REPORT CONCERNING THE  
STATUS OF SERVICE ON  
EACH INDIVIDUAL WALKER  
RIVER CLAIMANT**

FILED  
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BY   
DEPUTY

The Walker River Irrigation District (the "District") hereby moves this Court for an order requiring Mineral County by a date certain to identify, on an individual basis, all claimants to the waters of the Walker River and its tributaries (the "Walker River Claimants") against whom it seeks permission to assert the claims set forth in its proposed First Amended Complaint. In addition, the District moves the Court for an order requiring Mineral County



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by a date certain to file a report concerning the status of service of its Intervention Documents with respect to each individual it identifies as a Walker River Claimant.

This Motion is based on the following memorandum of points and authorities and all of the pleadings and papers on file herein.

DATED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1997.

WOODBURN AND WEDGE  
P.O. Box 2311  
Reno, Nevada 89505

By Dale E. Ferguson  
GORDON H. DEPAOLI  
DALE E. FERGUSON  
Attorneys for the Walker River  
Irrigation District

**MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

In October of 1994, Mineral County filed documents with this Court in an attempt to intervene in the above-captioned lawsuit. As a result, in February of 1995 this Court entered an order requiring Mineral County to serve its Intervention Documents on all claimants to the waters of the Walker River and its tributaries (the "Walker River Claimants") pursuant to Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (the "Service Order"). See Docket No. 19.

Since the entry of the Service Order, Mineral County has attempted to serve its Intervention Documents on numerous individuals and entities. In conducting these service efforts, however, Mineral County has failed and refused to take into consideration a paramount factor that must be established in every lawsuit. Mineral County has not identified

1 the parties against whom it proposes to assert its claims. In other words, Mineral County has  
2 failed and refused to identify each and every individual and entity that it claims is a Walker  
3 River Claimant and is therefore a necessary and proper party to this action. Absent this  
4 identification, Mineral County's proposed intervention cannot possibly proceed.

5 **II. THE COURT SHOULD REQUIRE MINERAL COUNTY TO IDENTIFY**  
6 **(BY NAME) ALL PERSONS AND ENTITIES IT CLAIMS ARE**  
7 **WALKER RIVER CLAIMANTS AND TO FILE A REPORT WITH THE**  
8 **COURT CONCERNING THE STATUS OF ITS SERVICE WITH**  
9 **RESPECT TO EACH**

10 In order to comply with the Court's orders addressing service of its Intervention  
11 Documents (See Docket Nos. 19, 44, 48, 74), Mineral County must identify each individual  
12 and entity it proposes to assert claims against and offer the Court evidence concerning  
13 completed or attempted service on those individuals and entities. Until Mineral County  
14 submits this information to the Court, it is impossible for Mineral County to be relieved of  
15 service or ordered to complete service through publication.

16 On or about June 2, 1995, Mineral County filed a list with this Court under the cover  
17 "Proof of Service by Mailing." Mineral County has not, however, indicated whether all or  
18 merely some of the names contained in the Proof of Service by Mailing list comprise the list  
19 of Walker River Claimants against whom Mineral County proposes to assert its claims.  
20 Therefore, at the present time, neither the Court nor any other party knows the specific  
21 identity of the individuals and entities that Mineral County will assert claims against if  
22 allowed to intervene in this matter.

23  
24 In February of 1996, Mineral County claimed that it had complied with the Court's  
25 orders concerning service and had served substantially all Walker River Claimants. To rebut  
26 this claim, it was necessary for the District to attempt to determine the status of Mineral  
27 County's service by reviewing the information contained in the Return of Service and Waiver  
28

1 of Service forms (the "Service Forms") filed by Mineral County. By comparing the  
2 information contained in the Service forms to the names appearing on the "Proof of Service  
3 by Mailing" list, the District determined that Mineral had not complied with the Court's  
4 service orders or served substantially all Walker River Claimants.

5 At this point in Mineral County's attempted intervention, however, the initial burden of  
6 determining the status of service should be on Mineral County and not the District or any  
7 other party. As a proposed plaintiff, Mineral County should have the initial burden to  
8 establish that it has effected service on all necessary and proper parties, as defined by the  
9 Court, and that its proposed intervention is therefore ready to move forward. To make this  
10 initial showing, Mineral County must first name each individual Walker River Claimant that  
11 may someday be impacted by its claims and then, with respect to each, make a representation  
12 as to whether or not service has been accomplished. If service has not been accomplished on  
13 a specific individual or entity, Mineral County should state the reason for failing to effect  
14 service.  
15

### 16 17 III. CONCLUSION

18 In order for this Court to relieve Mineral County of further service obligations or to  
19 order the completion of service through publication, Mineral County must first identify the  
20 Walker River Claimants that it proposes to assert claims against. In addition, to comply with  
21 the Court's service orders, Mineral County must establish completed service or offer reasons  
22 as to why service is not complete with respect to each individual and entity that it identifies  
23 as a Walker River Claimant. Initially, the burden of making this showing should fall on  
24 Mineral County as the proposed plaintiff.  
25

26 Given these circumstances, the District respectfully requests that the Court enter an  
27 order: 1) requiring Mineral County by a date certain to identify, by name, each individual and  
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1 entity it believes comprises the Walker River Claimants; and 2) requiring Mineral County by  
2 a date certain to file a report concerning the status of service of its Intervention Documents  
3 with respect to each individual Walker River Claimant which, in the event service is  
4 incomplete for a particular Walker River Claimant, states the reason as to why service has not  
5 been effected.  
6

7  
8 DATED this 10th day of March, 1997.

9 WOODBURN AND WEDGE  
10 P.O. Box 2311  
11 Reno, Nevada 89505

12 By Dale E. Ferguson  
13 GORDON H. DePAOLI  
14 DALE E. FERGUSON  
15 Attorneys for the Walker River  
16 Irrigation District  
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that I am an employee of the law firm of WOODBURN AND WEDGE and that on this <sup>10<sup>th</sup></sup>~~16<sup>th</sup>~~ day of <sup>MARCH</sup>~~July~~, 199<sup>7</sup>~~6~~, I deposited for mailing at Reno, Nevada a true and correct copy of the foregoing document, to the following:

Shirley A. Smith  
Asst. U.S. Attorney  
100 W. Liberty St., #600  
Reno, Nevada 89509

Richard R. Greenfield  
Dept. of the Interior  
Two North Central Ave., #500  
Phoenix, AZ 85004

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

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

Jim Weishaupt, General Manager  
WRID  
P.O. Box 820  
Yerington, NV 89447

R. Michael Turnipseed, P.E.  
Division of Water Resources  
State of Nevada  
123 West Nye Lane  
Carson City, NV 89710

James T. Markle  
State Water Resources  
Control Board  
P.O. Box 100  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Scott McElroy  
Greene, Meyer & McElroy  
1007 Pearl Street  
Boulder, CO 80302

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

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

Richard E. Olson, Jr.  
Claassen and Olson  
P.O. Box 2101  
Carson City, NV 89702

John P. Lange  
Land and Natural Resources  
Federal Bldg., Dr. 3607  
999 18th Street, Ste. 945  
Denver, CO 80202

Ross E. deLipkau  
P.O. Box 2790  
Reno, Nevada 89505

Roger Johnson  
Water Resources Control Board  
State of California  
P.O. Box 2000  
Sacramento, CA 95810

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Garry Stone  
290 South Arlington  
Reno, NV 89510

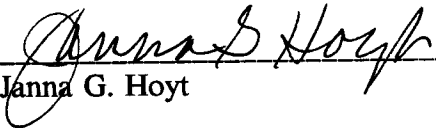
Linda Bowman  
Vargas & Bartlett  
P.O. Box 281  
Reno, Nevada 89504

Marta Adams  
Deputy Attorney General  
State of Nevada  
198 So. Carson Street  
Carson City, Nevada 89710

Jim Spoo  
Treva J. Hearne  
Zeh, Polaha, Spoo & Hearne  
575 Forest Street  
Reno, Nevada 89509

Mary Hackenbracht  
Deputy Attorney General  
State of California  
2101 Webster Street  
Oakland, CA 94612-3049

Roger Bezayiff  
Water Master  
U.S. Board of Water  
Commissioners  
P.O. Box 853  
Yerington, Nevada 89447

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Janna G. Hoyt