

From: Gaylord Cleveland
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2011 5:43 PM
To: 'bkieckhefer@sen.state.nv.us'; 'phickey@asm.state.nv.us'
Subject: Funding for Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology

Mr. Kieckefer and Mr. Hickey,

I reside in your districts in Reno. It has come to my attention that, as part of the current round of budget cuts imposed on UNR, UNR plans to cut funding for the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology (NBMG) from \$2.1 million/yr to \$1 million/yr. I normally have no problem with budget cuts since I believe government as well as individuals need to live within its means. And many government agencies tend to have bloated staffs and certain spending priorities which really should absorb some cuts.

However, from what I have observed at NBMG, they do not appear to have an excessive staff, and as far as I am concerned, they perform vital work. The basic geologic maps that they generate are very important to people like me who represent mining companies willing to invest in the state. I believe that they actually bring money into the state that more than offsets their expenditures. In addition they study geologic hazards and conduct other work beneficial to all citizens of the state. Apparently they operate to a large degree on grant money, some of which will be lost with cutbacks.

I believe that the vital work they perform for the state and the relative efficiency of the organization merits exempting them from serious cutbacks. Thank you for listening.

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