

Monastero

8597 Timaru Trail

Reno, NV 89523

March 28, 2011

The Honorable Brian Sandoval, Governor

State of Nevada, Capitol Building

Carson City, NV 89701

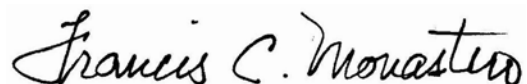
Dear Governor Sandoval:

It has come to my attention that you are proposing a 52% budget reduction for the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology – a grievous error in a rush to balance the budget. The State of Nevada has been for the past 150+ years, and continues to be today, one of the leaders in the U.S. for wise use of our abundant geological resources. It is extremely important that the you give recognition through full funding to the immeasurable contribution of NBMG at this critical time in the world economy when jobs mean so much, and the U.S. security in mineral resources is being challenged internationally. Compound this with the outstanding leadership NBMG has provided in renewable energy development, and you will quickly find that this organization has been a lynchpin in furthering development of critical clean, secure, “home grown” energy resources for all Nevadans.

For as long as memory serves, the NBMG has been a fiscally responsible entity, and has more than pulled its own weight through outside funding. Contrast this with the histories of the State Departments of Health and Human Services, Cultural Affairs, and Information Technology – all of which drain valuable fiscal resources with little return on investment. There really is no comparison for NBMG when it comes to value to the people of Nevada. In the years to come the mining and renewable energy industries will provide leadership in job creation and stability for the economy during difficult times, and the NBMG will be Nevada’s industry partner in furthering those important goals.

Now is the time to support a fully-funded public partner in NBMG. They have shown themselves to be an enormous asset in the past that has yielded great benefits, and will continue to do so in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Francis C. Monastero". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Francis C. Monastero, Ph.D.

A Concerned Nevadan

Cc: Board of Regents, State Legislators