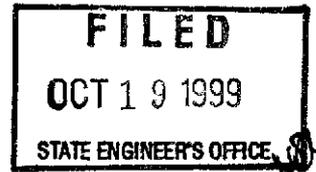


IN THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

In the Matter of Application No. 65431

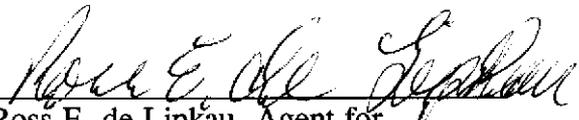
Filed by TRISTA LAKE on August 18, 1999, to Appropriate the Waters of Lincoln County, Nevada

PROTEST

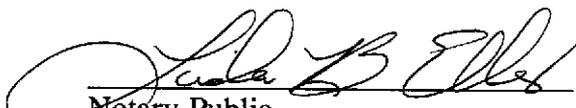


COMES NOW EL TEJON CATTLE COMPANY, 34741 Standard Road, Bakersfield, CA 93308, and protests the granting of Application Number 65431, filed on August 18, 1999, by TRISTA LAKE to appropriate the waters of an underground source situated in Lincoln County, Nevada (Basin 184 - Spring Valley), for the following reasons and on the following grounds, to-wit: *see* Exhibit A attached hereto.

THEREFORE the Protestant requests that the application be denied and that an order be entered for such relief as the State Engineer deems just and proper.


Ross E. de Lipkau, Agent for
Protestant El Tejon Cattle Company
P. O. Box 2790
Reno, NV 89505-2790
Tel: (775) 323-1601

Subscribed and Sworn to before me
this 18th day of October, 1999.


Notary Public
State of Nevada, County of Washoe

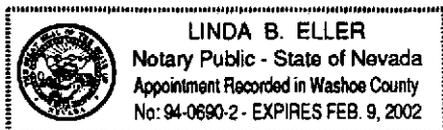


EXHIBIT A

1. Protestant is the owner of ground water rights within Spring Valley. The granting of this application would adversely affect the prior rights of protestant.
2. Spring Valley, assigned Basin 184, is fully appropriated so therefore no unappropriated water exists in the source.
3. Protestant is the owner of grazing privileges in the area sought to be acquired by the applicant. The granting of the application would prove detrimental to the interests of protestant.
4. Based upon the foregoing, the granting of the application would threaten to prove detrimental to the public interest.