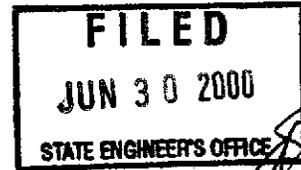


IN THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN THE MATTER OF APPLICATION NUMBER 65941, FILED BY Bright-Holland Corporation ON January 27th 2000, TO APPROPRIATE THE WATERS OF Red Mountain Creek

PROTEST



Comes now U.S.D.I., Bureau of Land Management, Winnemucca District whose post office address is 5100 East Winnemucca Blvd, Winnemucca NV 89445 whose occupation is Federal Land Management Agency, and protests the granting of Application Number 65941, filed on January 27th, 2000 by Bright-Holland Corporation to appropriate the waters of Red Mountain Creek situated in Washoe County, State of Nevada, for the following reasons and on the following grounds, to wit:

Red Mountain Creek is heavily diverted for irrigation purposes. The stream is currently diverted at the mouth of the canyon. Stream habitat conditions downstream of the current diversion are severely degraded. Without any baseflow within the channel channel maintenance does not occur. Consequently, this results in the lower channel only receiving annual flood flows, producing severe erosion. Additional diversion would also lessen the amount of recharge to the groundwater basin. This basin has been and is currently experiencing groundwater "mining". There have been recent efforts to enhance natural recharge, additional appropriations will agravate the situation within this basin

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.

Signed Colin P. Christensen Agent or protestant Address 5100 East Winnemucca Blvd Winnemucca, NV 89445

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of June, 2000



Martha P. Smith Notary Public State of Nevada County of Humboldt

\$25 FILING FEE MUST ACCOMPANY PROTEST. PROTEST MUST BE FILED IN DUPLICATE. ALL COPIES MUST CONTAIN ORIGINAL SIGNATURE.