

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-7012

November 24, 2010

Mary D'Aversa  
Schell Field Manager  
BLM Ely District Office  
HC 33 Box 33500 (702 North Industrial Way)  
Ely, NV 89301

Dear Ms. D'Aversa:

I write to voice my support for the proposed Spring Valley Wind project in White Pine County. This project represents an important milestone in developing Nevada's tremendous clean energy resources and it will deliver much needed economic benefits for both White Pine County and the entire state.

As the first large-scale wind project in Nevada to be fully permitted and ready for construction, the Spring Valley Wind project is ready to create hundreds of jobs over the year long construction period and a dozen permanent jobs during the 20-30 years of operations. In addition to local employment, the project will contribute more than \$20 million in sales and property taxes to the state, White Pine County, and the local school district over a 20-year period. Severe budget constraints state-wide make rapid deployment of clean energy projects like Spring Valley Wind particularly important to our economic recovery.

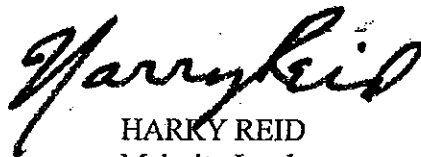
The project's developer has also paid close attention to environmental and wildlife protection, implementing an avian and bat protection plan that was prepared in cooperation with the BLM, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Nevada Department of Wildlife, and other wildlife biologists. The project's bat mitigation plan is designed to curtail wind turbines during sensitive time periods. A radar detection program is also being installed to further reduce bat fatalities by automatically shutting down turbines if large numbers of bats are detected.

Finally, the project enjoys the community's support in White Pine County. This support is evidenced by a unanimous decision of the White Pine County Commission to approve the project, along with numerous letters that local residents and community leaders have submitted to BLM in support of the project.

As you are undoubtedly aware, the Sec. 1603 treasury grant program created by the Recovery Act will expire at the end of this year and creates a severe time constraint under which the Spring Valley Wind project must proceed. I hope that BLM will keep in mind this critical deadline as well as the tremendous benefits this project offers White Pine County as the project nears construction.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my strong support for the Spring Valley Wind project. If you have any questions, please contact Alex McDonough of my staff at (202) 224-1052.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harry Reid". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

HARRY REID  
Majority Leader