

KENNY C. GUINN, *Governor*

STATE OF NEVADA

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OF NEVADA

May 28, 2004

Admiral James D. Watkins, USN (Retired)  
Chairman  
U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy  
1120 20<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Suite 200 North  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Re: Preliminary Report of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy

Dear Admiral Watkins:

At the request of Governor Kenny Guinn, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comment on the above-mentioned report. As an inland state, Nevada has no direct geographic connection to the oceans of the United States. However, Nevada does feel a sense of stewardship to the nation's oceans and a vested interest in the oceans' resources.

From a resource preservation perspective, we support the federal government's policy objective of protecting coastline assets such as wetlands, marshes, sounds, and embayments.

From a resource utilization perspective, we feel that the oceans adjacent to the United States should be used for the benefit of the nation as a whole and not only of the states that border the oceans. For some time water representatives from the State of Nevada have, for example, espoused the idea of creating multi-state/agency, multi-funded seawater desalination facilities to be used for the benefit of both coastal and inland states. This opportunity allows for the consideration of conjunctive use of a national resource for the betterment of coastal and inland states.

The State of Nevada supports the protection and enhancement of the nation's oceans and supports the idea of multi-state inter-agency cooperation for the better utilization of ocean resources by the nation as a whole.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of George M. Caan in black ink.

George M. Caan  
Executive Director

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