



SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY®

Water Efficient Technologies Program Cooling System Upgrade Incentives

(\$95,000)

WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects

R22AS000195

April 26, 2022

Applicant:

Southern Nevada Water Authority

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1. Technical Proposal: Executive Summary

Date: April 26, 2022

Applicant: Southern Nevada Water Authority (Category A applicant)

Location: 1001 South Valley View Boulevard, Las Vegas, Nevada 89153 (Clark County)

Project Summary: Although landscaping continues to be the dominant use of consumptive water in the Las Vegas Valley, evaporative cooling accounts for the second-largest consumptive water use, with consumption occurring primarily through evaporation and drift loss. Leveraging alternative cooling technologies to upgrade commercial cooling systems improves water use efficiency and provides permanent savings for the Colorado River System. These upgrades are vital in Southern Nevada as the region is experiencing decades-long severe, persistent drought. In the proposed project, the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) located in Las Vegas, Nevada, will provide incentives through the Water Efficient Technologies (WET) Program for member agency, City of Henderson (COH), to upgrade cooling systems to improve water use efficiency in COH buildings. This project is anticipated to result in upgrades to 12 units, which will result in an estimated annual savings of 1,036,800 gallons, providing permanent savings for the Colorado River System. The upgraded equipment life span is 20 years, so over two decades that would result in an estimated savings of 20,736,000 gallons, or 63.64 acre-feet. Implementing cooling efficiency standards is a focus area in the 2021 SNWA Water Resource Plan and research into cooling technology, as well as increasing the effectiveness of cooling incentive programs like the WET Program are emphasized in the 2019 SNWA Joint Conservation Plan.

Length of Time and Estimated Completion Date: The proposed project encompasses activity from January 2023 through December 2024.

Federal Facilities: The proposed project is not located on a Federal facility.

2. Technical Proposal: Project Location

The proposed project will provide incentives for cooling system upgrades to COH buildings, with a focus on recreational facilities. A map of COH with city-owned recreational facilities is included in Appendix A.

3. Technical Proposal: Detailed Project Description

In Southern Nevada, nearly all water used indoors is recovered, treated, and returned to the Colorado River system for return-flow credits. The recycling of Colorado River water used in Southern Nevada is accrued according to the 1984 U.S. Bureau of Reclamation “Procedure for Determining Return-Flow Credits to Nevada from Las Vegas Wash” and subsequent administrative updates authorized by Reclamation. This process extends Nevada’s Colorado River water supply by nearly 70 percent. As a result, SNWA’s conservation efforts emphasize reducing outdoor water use and lessening use of evaporative cooling, neither of which can be recovered through return-flow credits.

The Water Efficient Technologies (WET) Program is a key component in SNWA’s efforts to meet its conservation goals; since 2001, participation in the WET program has saved more than 15 billion gallons of water. The WET Program offers financial incentives to property owners to install pre-approved water saving technologies, such as retrofitting cooling systems with

qualifying, high-efficiency drift elimination technologies. SNWA determines the project eligibility and may require an interlocal agreement to execute the rebate or authorize pre-payment of the incentive. For retrofitting water-cooled air conditioning to conventional air conditioning, projects must have a minimum capacity of five tons (applicants may aggregate savings across facilities to meet requirements). Incentives for this type of upgrade are 50 percent of the real product costs (excluding labor) or \$950/ton capacity, whichever is less.

To participate in the program, SNWA completes a pre-conversion eligibility for interested parties. To be eligible, capital improvements must conserve at least 100,000 gallons per year and the project must be sustained for a minimum of 10 calendar years. Upon project completion, SNWA completes a final inspection to verify compliance with the program conditions and when a property passes inspection, the incentive is issued.

To help meet SNWA water conservation goals, COH has prioritized upgrading cooling systems in city-owned buildings. In the proposed project, COH will receive incentives for completing cooling systems upgrades to recreational facilities that currently use evaporative cooling. These systems will be upgraded to dedicated outdoor air systems (DOAS). DOAS is a type of heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning system (HVAC) formed by two parallel systems. The first system is designed to take in outside air, temper and dehumidify the air, and then bring the air into the building. The parallel system manages sensible heat loads generated indoors that pass through the building. DOAS allows facility managers to efficiently condition outside air without consumptively using water like the older evaporative cooling systems. A DOAS has a large intake that is designed specifically to provide filtering, dehumidification, and cooling or heating necessary to use outdoor air. In addition to making buildings more comfortable temperature-wise, DOAS also improves indoor air quality.

The proposed project is part of a larger COH initiative to upgrade 71 units and ultimately eliminate evaporative cooling in their buildings.

4. Technical Proposal: Evaluation Criteria

E.1.1. Evaluation Criterion A—Project Benefits

Benefits to the Category A Applicant's Water Delivery System: Clearly explain the anticipated water management benefits to the Category A applicant's water supply delivery system and water customers.

With an estimated annual savings of 1,036,800 gallons (20,736,000 gallons, or 63.64 acre-feet over the 20-year useful life of the equipment upgrades), the proposed project contributes to better overall water management as conservation efforts in the community extend benefits into the Colorado River System as a whole. On the local level, water conservation reduces demand and increases efficiency, as well as assisting with SNWA's banking of unused supplies. These conservation measures provide SNWA with additional flexibility in responding to drought conditions and meeting demands.

Explain the significance of the anticipated water management benefits for the Category A applicant's water delivery system and customers. Are customers not currently getting their full water right at certain times of year?

Last year, the Bureau of Reclamation projected Lake Mead's water elevations to fall below 1,075 feet, prompting the U.S. Secretary of Interior to declare a shortage in the Colorado River Basin. As a result, Nevada cannot consumptively use its full Colorado River allocation. Despite the declaration, Southern Nevada is consumptively using less water than its federal allocation, thereby minimizing customer impacts. Although SNWA does not anticipate near-term customer impacts from this shortage declaration, all conservation initiatives and projects are crucial as the risk of shortage remains high in future years.

Does this project have the potential to prevent lawsuits or water calls?

Due to this project's small-scale, it is not anticipated to have the potential to prevent lawsuits or water calls. However, with the severity of drought in the region, every small project that contributes to water conservation is important.

What are the consequences of not making the improvement?

All water used for evaporative cooling is consumptive, meaning it does not earn return-flow credits and is counted against the Colorado River allowance. Not making this improvement means continued consumptive use of water to climate control buildings, which is necessary in the warming Las Vegas climate. COH facility managers plan to operate cooling systems 12 hours a day, 240 days per year. If use of evaporative cooling were to continue for the 12 units that will be converted through the proposed project, each unit would use 86,400 gallons of water a year, and 1,036,800 gallons of water would be lost each year. With the severity of the drought and a second shortage declaration possible, the region does not have the luxury of not maximizing every conservation measure available.

Are customer water restrictions currently required?

Southern Nevada's municipal water customers are subject to landscape watering restrictions, including time-of-day and day-of-week restrictions. Customers are restricted from watering outside of the established mandatory seasonal watering restrictions, which include one day a week in winter, three days a week in spring and fall, and six days a week or less in summer. Landscape watering is never allowed on Sunday. Additionally, customers may not water during the hottest part of the day in the summer. Nevada Assembly Bill 356, which was signed into law in June 2021, prohibits, with certain exceptions, the use of water from the Colorado River to irrigate non-functional turf in southern Nevada. This is the most aggressive municipal water conservation measure taken in the western United States. The law will be fully implemented by the end of 2026.

Other significant concerns that support the need for the project.

The permanent water savings provided by the proposed project support better water quality by maintaining water levels in Lake Mead, which also supplies ecosystem benefits for fish and wildlife.

Broader Benefits: Will the project improve broader water supply reliability at sub-basin or basin scale?

SNWA and its member agencies depend on the Colorado River for approximately 90 percent of community water resource needs. SNWA's primary resource is its share of Nevada's consumptive-use apportionment of 279,000 afy of Colorado River water. The extended drought in the Colorado River Basin has resulted in significant declines at major system reservoirs, including Lake Mead. The proposed project reduces the consumptive use of Colorado River resources and provides a permanent water savings, increasing availability and reliability.

Will the proposed project increase collaboration and information sharing among water managers in the region? Please explain.

As will be discussed in Evaluation Criterion B, implementing cooling efficiency standards is a key conservation focus area of the 2021 Water Resource Plan. As part of this focus, SNWA is dedicated to evaluating cooling technologies to better inform water management practices. Each completed cooling project provides additional data that can be shared with other water managers in the region.

SNWA has received Notice of Award for Reclamation funding for the Water Conservation Field Services Program Region 8: Lower Colorado River Basin Region Financial Assistance for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 grant for the project, Evaluating Cooling System Technologies That Reduce Consumptive Water Use. SNWA will partner with WaterStart, a non-profit organization, that operates a platform to promote viable technology solutions to water utilities and other water systems managers across three continents. That project is focused on other technologies and does not include the types of sites listed in this proposal; however, it is important to mention as it demonstrates SNWA's commitment to evaluation and information sharing.

Will the proposed project positively impacts/benefit various sectors and economies within the applicable geographic area?

The proposed project will benefit multiple sectors and users throughout the SNWA purveyor service areas, including municipalities in the service area and recreational users at Lake Mead. The permanent water savings provided by the project will translate into a more safe, reliable water supply for the community and help maximize return flow credits to the Colorado River. Lessening use of the Colorado River helps maintain Lake Mead levels, which benefits communities in the SNWA service area and the larger region.

Potential project sites are part of COH's Parks & Recreation Department, which serves over 330,000 Henderson residents of all ages, backgrounds, and socioeconomic statuses through programming at 68 neighborhood and community parks, 11 aquatic facilities, and eight recreation centers. [COH's population](https://www.cityofhenderson.com/government/departments/community-development-and-services/demographics-maps/demographic-profile) includes 19.4 percent seniors aged 65 and over, 11.8 percent individuals with a disability, and 24.4 percent people of color (<https://www.cityofhenderson.com/government/departments/community-development-and-services/demographics-maps/demographic-profile>). Less water usage by COH also saves dollars as it saves capacity in pipes and costs in pumping. Additionally, the old evaporative cooling units needed replacement approximately every eight years, so the longer life of the DOAS upgrades benefits COH.

Will the project complement work being done in coordination with NRCS in the area (e.g., the area with a direct connection to the districts water supply)?

The proposed project complements NRCS conservation initiatives in the region as NRCS has worked with [farmers in southern Nevada](#) to develop and carryout water-saving conservation plans.

Will the project help address drought conditions at the sub-basin or basin scale?

The severe and sustained drought conditions on the Colorado River underscores the critical role of conservation in helping to meet current and future demands. SNWA and its member agencies depend on the Colorado River for approximately 90 percent of the community’s drinking water needs. As drought conditions continue and with the first federally declared Colorado River shortage, southern Nevada’s conservation efforts are even more important. Further declines in Lake Mead’s water level could result in additional shortages, which would further stress the ability of water supply facilities to meet water demands. Water conservation helps to mitigate these concerns.

E.1.2. Evaluation Criterion B—Planning Efforts Supporting the Project

Plan Development: Describe how your project is supported by an existing planning effort. Identify the planning effort and who developed it.

To support its water planning and management responsibilities, SNWA develops and maintains a Water Resource Plan and Joint Conservation Plan. Both plans prioritize aggressive conservation measures to reduce water demands and maximize use of available resources. The Water Resource Plan was first developed in 1996 and is reviewed annually and updated as needed. The Joint Conservation Plan was made available to the public for review and comment, reviewed by SNWA’s member agencies, and adopted by SNWA and its members that provide potable water services. The Joint Conservation Plan was accepted by the Nevada Division of Water Resources under Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 540.141 and approved by Reclamation under the Reclamation Reform Act.

Support for the Project: Describe to what extent the proposed project is supported by the identified plan. Is the project identified specifically in the planning effort? Explain whether the proposed project implements a goal or address a need or problem identified in the existing planning effort? Explain how the proposed project has been determined as a priority in the existing planning effort as opposed to other potential projects/measures.

Cooling efficiency projects are identified specifically in the above-named planning efforts. Chapter Three of the [2021 Water Resource Plan](#) discusses implementing cooling efficiency standards as a key focus area in conservation efforts. Upgrading evaporative cooling systems with water efficient models, as well as requiring high efficiency systems in new development are important strategies. SNWA provides incentives to commercial property owners who install water-efficient cooling systems. Chapter Five of the [2019 Joint Conservation Plan](#) recognizes upgrades of standard cooling towers with high-efficiency drift elimination technologies through incentive programs as a specific conservation measure and discusses boosting participation in the WET Program.

As discussed in the 2021 Water Resource Plan, evaporative cooling is the second-largest consumptive water use in the region. Implementing alternative cooling technology in commercial buildings across Southern Nevada will generate substantial water savings.

E.1.3. Evaluation Criterion C—Project Implementation and Results

Table 1. Project Schedule

Task/Milestone	Start Date	Completion Date	Responsible Party
Environmental and Cultural Compliance	Jan 2023	Jan 2023	SNWA
Pre-Upgrade Site Inspections	Feb 2023	Ongoing	SNWA
Contractor Selection	Jan/Feb 2023	Ongoing, dependent on site	COH
Site Installations	Apr 2023	Jul 2024	COH Contractor(s)
Post-Upgrade Site Inspections	Jul 2023	Sept 2024	SNWA
Issue Incentives	Oct 2023	Dec 2024	SNWA

Describe any permits that will be required, along with the process for obtaining such permits.

Not applicable to the proposed incentive project. COH will be responsible for any permits.

Identify and describe any engineering or design work performed specifically in support of the proposed project.

Not applicable to the proposed incentive project. COH will be responsible for any design work.

Describe any new policies or administrative actions required to implement the project.

Project WET is an existing incentive program; new policies or administrative actions are not required to implement the project.

Describe the timeline for completion of environmental and cultural resource compliance. Was the timeline for completion of environmental and cultural resource compliance discussed with the local Reclamation office?

A one-month timeline for this compliance was discussed with the local Reclamation office and is built into the timeline. This project is covered under Reclamation’s Finding of No Significant Impact and Final Environmental Assessment LC-18-24.

E.1.4. Evaluation Criterion D—Nexus to Reclamation

Is the proposed project connected to a Reclamation project or activity? Does the applicant receive Reclamation project water? Is the project on Reclamation project lands or involving Reclamation facilities? Is the project in the same basin as a Reclamation project or activity? Will the proposed work contribute water to a basin where a Reclamation project is located?

Reclamation is a critical partner in SNWA’s water management and conservation efforts. SNWA diverts 90 percent of its water supply from the Reclamation-managed Colorado River system.

SNWA receives delivery of Colorado River water from Reclamation under several contracts held by or its member agencies, as listed below:

SNWA Contracts:

- Contract Number 2-07-30-W0266, Amendment Number 1, Amended and Restated Contract with the Southern Nevada Water Authority, for the Delivery of Colorado River Water
- Contract Number 7-07-30-W0004, Amendatory and Supplemental Contract between the United States and the State of Nevada for the Delivery of Water and Construction of Project Works

SNWA Member Agency Contracts:

- Contract Number 14-06-300-978, “Boulder Canyon Project Arizona-California-Nevada Contract for the Delivery of Water,” City of Boulder City
- Contract Number 0-07-30-W0246, Contract for Delivery of Water to City of Henderson
- Contract Number 14-06-300-2130, “Boulder Canyon Project Contract for Delivery of Water to Las Vegas Valley Water District”
- Contract Number 2-07-30-W0269, “Boulder Canyon Project Contract with the Big Bend Water District, Nevada, for the Delivery of Colorado River Water”

Water delivered by SNWA under these contracts is diverted at Reclamation-approved diversion points in the Colorado River at Lake Mead and below Hoover Dam. This includes delivery of water through the Robert B. Griffith Water Project (formerly the Southern Nevada Water Project) constructed by Reclamation, as authorized by an Act of the United States Congress.

Additionally, SNWA has established long-standing relationships with Reclamation, and has coordinated on a number of initiatives including funding for the Brock Reservoir System Efficiency Project and the Yuma Desalting Plant Pilot Project; development and implementation of interstate water banking agreements with Arizona and California; Colorado River accounting and procedures for return-flow credits; a Xeriscape Conversion Study; and environmental restoration and stabilization initiatives in the Las Vegas Wash and Warm Springs Natural Area.

The proposed project will contribute permanent water savings, allowing SNWA to contribute additional unused Colorado River water toward interstate banking efforts.

E.1.5. Evaluation Criterion E—Presidential and Department of the Interior Priorities

E.1.5.1. Sub-criterion No. E1. Climate Change

Please provide specific details and examples on how the project will address the impacts of climate change and help combat the climate crisis. Does this proposed project strengthen water supply sustainability to increase resilience to climate change?

Southern Nevada’s biggest threat from the climate crisis is reduced water availability due to severe, persistent drought in the Colorado River Basin and throughout the Southwest.

Conservation is a key tool in managing our shrinking water supply. The proposed project strengthens water supply sustainability to increase resilience to climate change by creating permanent water savings.

Does the proposed project contribute to climate change resiliency in other ways not described above?

In addition to offering water savings, adequately sizing cooling systems for projected future warming will ensure longer cooling system lifespans, as indicated by [Heat Impacts on Infrastructure & Personnel: A SNWA Case Study](https://www.wucaonline.org/assets/pdf/heat-impact-case-study-snwa.pdf) (<https://www.wucaonline.org/assets/pdf/heat-impact-case-study-snwa.pdf>). SNWA is recommending this for internal facilities and property owners benefiting from WET incentives. As previously mentioned, the systems upgrades have an expected useful life of 20 years.

E.1.5.2. Sub-criterion No. E2. Disadvantaged or Underserved Communities

Will the proposed project serve or benefit a disadvantaged or historically underserved community?

The [Nevada median household income is \\$60,365](https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/NV) in 2019 dollars, per the U.S. Census Bureau (<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/NV>). In looking at a breakdown of median household income by race in Las Vegas and surrounding cities or areas of unincorporated Clark County in the SNWA service, it can be surmised that households earning less than 100 percent of the statewide median household income will indirectly benefit from the proposed project.

Table 2. Median Household Income by Race: Cities near Las Vegas

	Las Vegas	Henderson	North Las Vegas	Paradise	Spring Valley	Sunrise Manor
American Indian or Alaska Native	\$40,221	\$62,500	\$54,569	\$43,786	No data	\$43,177
Asian	\$60,836	\$76,752	\$72,679	\$49,527	\$66,747	\$61,319
Black or African American	\$36,464	\$51,813	\$49,574	\$32,528	\$45,752	\$29,365
Hispanic or Latino	\$47,898	\$65,313	\$54,238	\$44,268	\$55,279	\$47,114
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	\$65,859	\$82,730	\$62,024	\$46,433	\$79,625	\$41,339
White	\$62,987	\$76,273	\$65,430	\$54,273	\$59,099	\$45,643

Groups highlighted in yellow have a median household income below Nevada’s state median household income. City median household data from [Data Commons](https://datacommons.org/place/geoId/3240000?utm_medium=explore&mprop=income&popt=Person&cpv=age%2CYears15Onwards&hl=en), utilizing U.S. Census data (https://datacommons.org/place/geoId/3240000?utm_medium=explore&mprop=income&popt=Person&cpv=age%2CYears15Onwards&hl=en).

If the proposed project is providing benefits to an underserved community, provide sufficient information to demonstrate that the community meets the underserved definition in E.O. 13985, which includes populations sharing a particular characteristic, as well as geographic communities, that have been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life.

To see which underserved communities will indirectly benefit from the proposed project, consider a snapshot of population demographics in the county. Table 3 below outlines these demographics. Additionally, 31.6 percent of residents in Clark County identify as Hispanic or Latino. ([U.S. Census Bureau Quick Facts, Clark County, Nevada](https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/clarkcountynevada/RHI225219#RHI225219) <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/clarkcountynevada/RHI225219#RHI225219>)

Table 3. Underserved Populations by Race, Percentage of Clark County Population

Black or African American, alone	13.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native, alone	1.2%
Asian, alone	10.4%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, alone	0.9%
Two or More Races	4.9%

E.1.5.3. Sub-criterion No. E.3. Tribal Benefits

Does the proposed project directly serve and/or benefit a Tribe?

The proposed project will not directly serve or benefit a Tribe. However, the project will indirectly benefit Indian tribes by reducing consumptive use on the Colorado River, to which Indian tribes have rights, including the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, Colorado River Indian Tribes, Chemehuevi Indian Tribe, Quechan Indian Tribe, and Cocopah Indian Tribe in the Lower Basin. Additionally, the Southern Paiute Tribe will indirectly benefit as the nation is in an SNWA member agency service area.

5. Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement

There is no known overlap between the proposed project and any other active or anticipated proposals or projects. This project proposal has not been submitted for funding consideration to any other potential funding source. As mentioned in Evaluation Criterion A, SNWA has received Notice of Award for the Reclamation Field Services Program 2021-2022 for a project to evaluate cooling technologies and disseminate those results. That project is focused on other technologies and does not include the types of sites listed in this proposal.

6. Project Budget: Funding Plan

SNWA as is funded by diverse sources, including a quarter-cent sales tax, connection fees, commodity fees, and reliability charges. The matching contribution of \$111,000 will be provided by SNWA. Since no matching funding will be provided by a source other than the applicant, no letters of commitment are required.

7. Project Budget: Budget Proposal

Table 4. Total Project Cost Table

SOURCE	AMOUNT
Costs to be reimbursed with the requested Federal funding	\$95,000
Costs to be paid by the applicant	\$111,000
Value of third-party contributions	\$0
TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$206,000

Table 5. Budget Proposal

BUDGET ITEM DESCRIPTION	COMPUTATION		Quantity Type	TOTAL COST
	\$/Unit	Quantity		
Environmental and Regulatory Compliance				
	\$1,000	1	Misc.	\$1,000
Other (Incentives)				
	\$15,000	7	Incentive	\$105,000
	\$20,000	5	Incentive	\$100,000
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS				\$206,000
Indirect Costs – 0%				\$0
TOTAL ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS				\$206,000

8. Project Budget: Budget Narrative

All costs included in this proposal are directly related to the project and necessary for its implementation. The non-federal contribution is 54 percent; the federal contribution is 46 percent.

Salaries and Wages/Fringe Benefits: Not applicable to this project. Reclamation funding will not be expended for administration. In addition to SNWA’s matching contribution, SNWA will assume all overhead costs necessary to operate the program.

Equipment/Supplies, Materials, Contracts, or Third-Party In-Kind Contributions: Not applicable to the proposed project.

Environmental and Regulatory Compliance Costs: Please review responses in the Environmental and Cultural Resources section. \$1,000 is budgeted for potential compliance costs. SNWA does not anticipate additional costs associated with compliance. If SNWA receives an award, possible costs will be discussed during the development of the financial agreement.

Other Expenses: Expenditures totaling \$205,000 in incentives will result in the estimated annual savings of 1,036,800 gallons of water.

Total Direct Costs: Reclamation is requested to contribute \$95,000 toward direct costs. SNWA will provide match of \$111,000.

Indirect Costs: All direct costs align with eligible categories. SNWA does not have a federally negotiated indirect cost rate agreement. No funds are requested for indirect costs.

9. Environmental and Cultural Resources Compliance

Will the proposed project impact the surrounding environment (e.g., soil [dust], air, water [quality and quantity], animal habitat)? Please briefly describe all earth-disturbing work and any work that will affect the air, water, or animal habitat in the project area. Please also explain the impacts of such work on the surrounding environment and any steps that could be taken to minimize the impacts.

The proposed project would replace existing evaporative cooling systems with new cooling retrofit systems at various COH-owned facilities. As evaporative cooling accounts for the second largest consumptive water use, upgrading COH facilities from evaporative cooling to cooling retrofit systems would result in consumptive water savings and help meet SNWA water conservation goals. Since the cooling retrofit technologies used may vary based on facility site specific conditions, particulars would be identified in the later stages of the proposed project. Earth disturbing work is not anticipated. Impacts to soil and air quality would be minimal since the project area is primarily asphalt/concrete and retrofitting would be limited to those areas and temporary. There would be no impacts to water quality. The consumptive water savings would result in beneficial impacts to water quantity in a region experiencing persistent drought. The proposed project area is previously disturbed, comprised primarily of asphalt and/or concrete, and used year-round by the public, and therefore does not provide animal habitat. The proposed project would increase ambient noise levels, but the effect would be temporary and localized, and project activities would occur during daylight hours. No new roads would be needed, and no roads would be blocked by the proposed project activities. Following cooling retrofit system installations, facilities would maintain the same purpose and appearance and therefore cause no visual impacts to the surrounding environment.

Are you aware of any species listed or proposed to be listed as a Federal threatened or endangered species, or designated critical habitat in the project area? If so, would they be affected by any activities associated with the proposed project?

Although the proposed project is a covered action under the Final Clark County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan and associated Biological Opinion (2000), there are no known listed or proposed to be listed federally threatened or endangered species in the proposed project area. The proposed project area is comprised of COH-owned facility sites that are previously disturbed, comprised primarily of asphalt/concrete, used daily year-round, and do not provide or are not designated as critical habitat.

Are there wetlands or other surface waters inside the project boundaries that potentially fall under CWA jurisdiction as “Waters of the United States?”

There are no wetlands or other surface waters inside the proposed project area boundaries that potentially fall under Clean Water Act jurisdiction as “Waters of the United States”.

When was the water delivery system constructed?

The Las Vegas Valley Water District commenced operations in 1954 and has served as the Southern Nevada region’s largest municipal water provider since that time. As the region evolved so too has the District’s water delivery system to meet the region’s needs.

Will the proposed project result in any modification of or effects to, individual features of an irrigation system (e.g., headgates, canals, or flumes)?

The upgrade of existing evaporative cooling systems to cooling retrofit systems at COH-owned facilities would not result in the modification of an irrigation system.

Are any buildings, structures, or features in the irrigation district listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places?

There are no known buildings, structures, or features associated with the proposed project or within the proposed project area listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The proposed project area is entirely within previously disturbed areas and does not meet the National Register of Historic Places age criteria nor is it unique or associated with significant persons or events.

Are there any known archeological sites in the proposed project area?

There are no known archaeological sites in the proposed project area. The proposed project area is entirely within previously disturbed areas.

Will the proposed project have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income and minority populations?

The proposed project would not have a disproportionately high or adverse effect on low income and minority populations. The proposed cooling retrofit systems would provide consumptive water savings that benefit the entire SNWA service area.

Will the proposed project limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites or result in other impacts to tribal lands?

There would be no direct benefits or adverse effects to Indian tribes by the proposed project. There are no Indian sacred sites or tribal lands within the proposed project area. The proposed project would not limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites and would not result in any impacts on tribal lands.

Will the proposed project contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area?

The project area consists primarily of asphalt and/or concrete. There are no noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur within the proposed project area. Equipment and vehicles would be free of noxious weeds and non-native invasive species prior to arriving at the project site. Therefore, the proposed project would not contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species.

10. Required Permits or Approvals

As the WET Program is a non-construction program, it is not anticipated that the implementation of this incentive project will require the issuance of any permits. Acquisition of permits would be the responsibility of the property owner, COH.

11. Letter of Support

COH Letter of Support is attached in Appendix C.

12. Official Resolution

An official resolution authorizing the submission of this proposal and confirming the subject matching requirements will go before the SNWA Board of Directors at its May 19 meeting. A copy will be forwarded to Reclamation at that time.

13. Conflict of Interest Disclosure

To the best of our knowledge, no actual or potential conflict of interest exists at the time of submission.

14. Uniform Audit Reporting Statement

SNWA was required to complete a Single Audit for the most recently closed fiscal year (ending June 30, 2021). SNWA's EIN is 88-0278492 and the report is available through the Federal Audit Clearinghouse website.

15. Certification Regarding Lobbying

As this application does not request more than \$100,000 in Federal funding, the Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying" was not submitted with this application.

16. Unique Entity Identifier

SNWA maintains an active registration in SAM.gov. Its Cage Code is 3NRT9. SNWA's unique entity identifier, or DUNS No., is 135965650, and SNWA's SAM Unique Identifier is SM1CPB4X7E88.

17. Supporting Documents: Appendices A-C

All appendices are included as attachments via grants.gov.



April 20, 2022

Southern Nevada Water Authority
Water Efficient Technologies (WET) Program
Attn: Mr. Patrick Watson
100 City Parkway, Ste. 700
Las Vegas, NV 89106

Re: Letter of Support, Southern Nevada Water Authority's SWEP Grant Application

Dear Mr. Watson:

On behalf of the City of Henderson, I would like to indicate our strong support for the Southern Nevada Water Authority's (SNWA) SWEP Grant application to support incentives for SNWA's Water Efficient Technologies (WET) program. As a member agency of the SNWA, we believe our collaboration in implementing effective conservation measures is critical in effectively adapting to address the impacts of drought and climate change on the water supply we all depend upon.

By supporting WET Program incentives, the proposed grant project will support the City of Henderson's removal of evaporative cooling systems in a number of city facilities and replacing them with air conditioning units. These upgrades will permanently save a significant amount of water and reduce dependency on the Colorado River. The financial incentives provided through the proposed project will accelerate the City's ability to complete these retrofits for water efficiency.

This grant will further expand our multi-agency partnership in southern Nevada to improve drought and climate change resiliency and support our progress towards water sustainability. I thank you in advance for your consideration of SNWA's application. Please contact me at 702-267-1085 should you require further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debra March". The signature is written in a cursive style and is enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Debra March
Mayor