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Office of the Governor

January 17, 2014

The Honorable Sally Jewell
Secretary, U.S. Department of Interior
1849 C Street, N.W., Room 6151
Washington, DC 20240

Re: Request for extension of Public Comment Period for the Nevada and Northeastern California Sub-region Greater Sage-grouse Draft Land Use Plan Amendments/Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Secretary Jewell:

I respectfully request that the Bureau of Land Management grant a 60-day extension of the public comment period for the Nevada and Northeastern California Sub-region Greater Sage-grouse Draft Land Use Plan Amendments/Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS).

Land management decisions made under the final version of this document will have significant impacts on our economy, custom and culture for decades. The highly-technical DEIS is more than 1,600 pages, including appendices. It is critical to our collective success that all parties – private citizens, local governments, non-governmental organizations, industry and states – have sufficient time to review and provide meaningful comments on this substantial document.

As you know, Nevada and many other states have been working fervently to address the critical issues presented by the potential listing of the Greater Sage-grouse under the Endangered Species Act. Nevada has undertaken substantial initiatives to protect the Greater Sage-grouse and the sagebrush ecosystem, including efforts that are outlined in the State's alternative submittal (Alternative E) as part of the BLM's planning process for the DEIS. We continue to develop and review comments in consultation with our Sagebrush Ecosystem Council, state agencies, the scientific community, and stakeholders across the state.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me or my Chief of Staff, Mr. Gerald Gardner, at (775) 684-5670.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this request and for your continued attention to this critical issue.

Sincere regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sandoval", is written over the typed name.

BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor

CC: Nevada Congressional Delegation
Nevada County Commissions
Neil Kornze, Principal Deputy Director, BLM
Amy Lueders, State Director - Nevada, BLM