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NRS 534.120 Rules, regulations and orders of state engineer when ground water being depleted in designated area; preferred uses of water; temporary permits to appropriate water. [Effective July 1, 2005.]

1. Within an area that has been designated by the state engineer, as provided for in this chapter where, in his judgment, the ground water basin is being depleted, the state engineer in his administrative capacity is herewith empowered to make such rules, regulations and orders as are deemed essential for the welfare of the area involved.

2. In the interest of public welfare, the state engineer is authorized and directed to designate preferred uses of water within the respective areas so designated by him and from which the ground water is being depleted, and in acting on applications to appropriate ground water, he may designate such preferred uses in different categories with respect to the particular areas involved within the following limits: Domestic, municipal, quasi-municipal, industrial, irrigation, mining and stock-watering uses and any uses for which a county, city, town, public water district or public water company furnishes the water.

3. The state engineer may:

(a) Issue temporary permits to appropriate ground water which can be limited as to time and which may be revoked if and when water can be furnished by an entity such as a water district or a municipality presently engaged in furnishing water to the inhabitants thereof.

(b) Deny applications to appropriate ground water for any purpose in areas served by such an entity.

(c) Limit depth of domestic wells.

(d) Prohibit the drilling of wells for domestic use, as defined in NRS 534.010 and 534.180, in areas where water can be furnished by an entity such as a water district or a municipality presently engaged in furnishing water to the inhabitants thereof.

4. For good and sufficient reasons the state engineer may exempt the provisions of this section with respect to public housing authorities.

[10.5:178:1939; added 1955, 328]—(NRS A 1989, 1401; 1999, 3542; 2001, 555, effective July 1, 2005)

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ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS
DATE: 3/11/03 ROOM: 3143 EXHIBIT D
SUBMITTED BY: Robert Crowell