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The Assembly Committee on Natural Resources, Agriculture and Mining
Presentation on the Nevada Conservation League

February 17, 2003

Presenters: Grace Potorti, Executive Director and Kaitlin Backlund, Program Associate

Good Afternoon. My name is Grace Potorti and I am the Executive Director of the Nevada Conservation League. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to speak to you today.

The Nevada Conservation League was founded in the year 2000 as a result of many meetings with conservation-minded citizens from around the state. Our organization was set up to give Nevada residents the information they need to have a greater role in policy decisions at both the state and federal level.

With the help of organizations such the League of Conservation Voters and the Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada, the Nevada Conservation League has evolved into the fabric that connects a vast array of interests in Nevada's environmental community.

We are a non-partisan, non-profit organization committed to ensuring that environmental protection and restoration is a top priority for Nevada's elected officials, appointed leaders, and voters. To accomplish this goal, we provide information to the public that can be used to better understand the important conservation issues facing the state as well as how to participate in the policy-making process.

At this time, the Nevada Conservation League has identified six areas of concern for the state:

1. The preservation of Walker Lake.
2. Preventing the storage of high-level nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain.
3. The development and use of sustainable energy.
4. Support continued funding for the preservation of Lake Tahoe.
5. Continue to enhance Nevada's air quality, particularly in our urban areas.
6. Encourage healthy management of public lands.

One of the educational services that we are providing during this legislative session is a weekly on-line report. We emailed a copy of this week's report to you on Friday. You should also have a hard copy. This report is designed to make it easier for the conservation-minded voter to understand how legislation moves through this body and what issues you as our state's decision-makers are facing. So far the response from the public has been very positive.

In the future we will also be actively engaged in voter registration activities as well as continuing our educational services.

Thank you for your service and for the opportunity to speak today.

ASSEMBLY NATURAL RES., AGRICULTURE & MINING
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SUBMITTED BY: Grace Potorti