COLORADO RIVER COMMISSION OF NEVADA

May 28, 2004

Admiral James D. Watkins, USN (Retired)
Chairman
U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy
1120 20th 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,

George M. Caan
Executive Director