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05/26/03



**Sierra
Environmental
Monitoring, Inc.**

To:

Assembly Natural Resources, Agriculture, and
Mining Committee
Nevada State Assembly
Carson City, Nevada

From:

John Kobza
Sierra Environmental Monitoring, Inc
Reno, NV 89502

Dear Sir or Madam:

This testimony is being given in support of SB 58 which would make changes to the NRS requiring all commercial laboratories doing hazardous waste characterization under the federally mandated Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) in Nevada to be certified by the State of Nevada. Currently, laboratories that are performing analysis of Nevada samples that are associated with the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Clean Water Act are required to be certified by the State of Nevada. Passage of this bill would make it mandatory that a only laboratories certified by the State of Nevada are permitted to analyze environmentally sensitive Nevada samples, no matter what federally mandated program they fall under.

We at Sierra Environmental Monitoring, Inc feel strongly that this bill should be passed for the following reasons.

1. The data produced by a certified laboratory has been generated using EPA approved methodology. In addition, all the necessary supporting quality control measures have been taken and documented to insure accuracy of the data.
2. The data produced by a certified laboratory is truly defensible in a court of law because all of the necessary documentation has been captured for each sample. That documentation is secure and maintained for review by the appropriate individuals or entities. Due to the integrity of the data, appropriate decisions can be made to protect our health and the environment.
3. Most commercial laboratories hold RCRA certification in other states. We would much prefer to be certified by our own state and pay the certification fees to the State of Nevada rather than the State of California. We feel that our money would be better spent in Nevada helping the Nevada economy.
4. Out of state laboratories that are doing analysis of RCRA samples in the state of Nevada would be required to be certified by the State of Nevada. This would create a level playing field for all laboratories that are performing these analyses. The out of state laboratories would also serve as a source of revenue for our own certification program; a source which is currently untapped.

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John Kobza, Ph.D.
Laboratory Director

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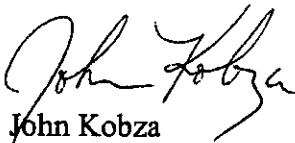
ASSEMBLY NATURAL RES., AGRICULTURE & MINING
DATE: 5/26/03 ROOM: 3161 EXHIBIT E 1-2
SUBMITTED BY: John Kobza

John C. Seher
Special Consultant
Quality Assurance Manager

5. The impact of this legislation would only be on the commercial laboratories doing business in the State of Nevada. Non-commercial laboratories such as those associated with waste water treatment plants and municipalities would be unaffected as they are not currently doing analysis of RCRA samples.
6. This is the right thing to do to strengthen our certification program. It would strengthen the program by increasing the revenue base as well as giving it oversight of all analyses done under the three federally mandated programs designed to protect the health, welfare and environment of our state.

Finally, it should not go without notice that those of us who are paying the fees to fund the program are the ones who are endorsing this legislation. The reason for this is that we feel it is important. It is important because it promotes integrity and a level playing field in our industry. More importantly this legislation helps to provide additional security in the protection of our public health and the environment.

Sincerely Yours,



John Kobza

President/Lab Director