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STATE OF NEVADA



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SENATE FINANCE / ASSEMBLY WAYS AND MEANS JOINT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION / CIP

MARCH 14, 2003

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D-1 of 3

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION / CIP
DATE: 03-14-03 EXHIBIT D
SUBMITTED BY: DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

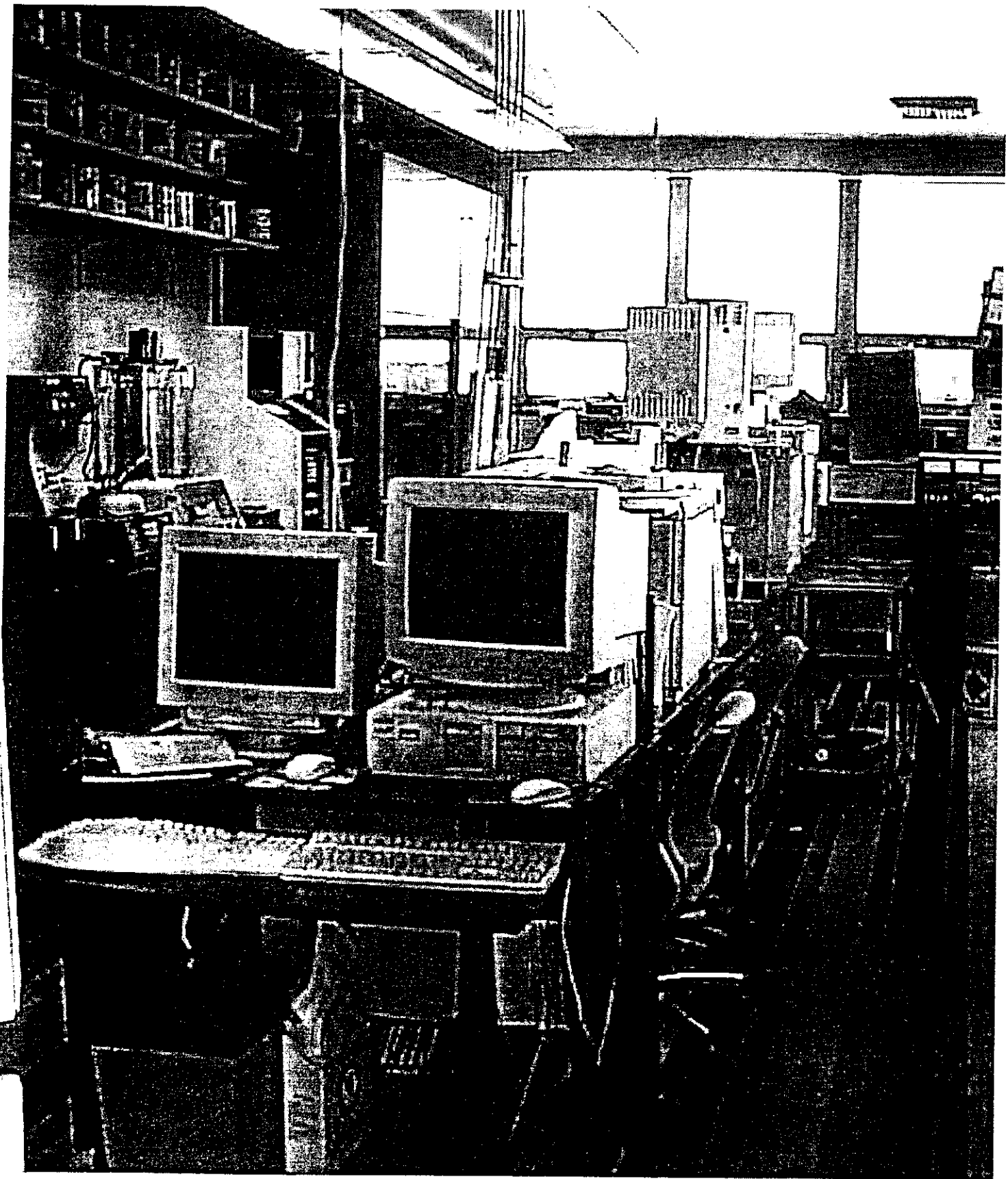
State Department of Agriculture

03-C18 Petroleum Lab Addition

1. Project is to attach a new laboratory facility to the existing Weights and Measures building in Sparks near the Mental Heath facility. The location is on State land and the building is an agriculture building.
2. One of the main purposes of this project is to free space in the leased agriculture building at 350 Capital Hill Avenue in Reno. That facility is currently over crowded and has required expansion into a second building on Wells Avenue.
3. The addition will place all of the Division of Measurement Standards in one location.
4. This project needs to move forward to provide additional lab that will be required for alternative fuels and new American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) methods.
5. Funding for construction of this CIP is dependent upon funds from the gasoline pollution account that is supported by smog testing fees. The current proposal to raise smog testing fees by \$2.00 would supplement this funding source

03-P3 Agriculture Office Building – planning

6. This project is for planning a new headquarters building for the Department of Agriculture. The building would be located next to the existing Weights and Measures building in Sparks near the Mental Heath facility. The location is on State land.
7. Currently the Department is located in two leased buildings in Reno. 11,000 sqft leased at \$1.28 + and 2000 sqft at \$1.05.
8. Having been at this location since the mid sixties we have severely outgrown this space.
9. This project has had advanced planning funding in 1997 for architecture space program. This plan developed the required square foot needs based on current and future occupancy.
10. Lab space is in very high demand. The plant pathology lab is a converted office, a storage room was converted into a separate lab to isolate disease spore extraction, the plant pathologist, who is a PhD has a tiny desk squired away into a corner. The Entomology lab houses the insect collection; this exhibit represents over 50 years of insect and plant species. This irreplaceable collection is partially stored in the hallway. The chemistry labs struggle daily with power problems to run equipment and have pressure tubing for standard gases running all over the place. The tight quarters create an environment where cross contamination of pesticides, and fertilizers are possible.
11. Office space is at a premium, most employees are highly educated with many PhD's and specialized in their respective fields. To retain these people we need to provide working conditions and office space to allow them to be productive and satisfied with their environment.
12. The Department needs to remain consolidated for the public and for maximum efficiency. Often someone will have a specimen and will not know whether it's an insect problem, plant disease problem, or a pesticide problem but having a single location allows us to resolve the problem.
13. This project remains the number one priority for the department.



PETROLEUM LABORATORY

D - 3 of 3