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Office of the Governor

August 14, 2026

The Honorable Dina Titus
Member of Congress
U.S. House of Representatives
2370 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Titus:

Thank you for taking the time to write about your concerns. I am encouraged to see that you and I agree that a responsible and balanced approach to land management that meets the needs of Nevada's communities is necessary. As you are aware I have vocally supported community-driven, community-specific, and Nevada-led solutions for the management, access and when appropriate, disposal of federal lands across our state.

I also welcome the opportunity to clarify the uses and limitations of some of the abatements our state offers. Abatements are an effective tool for attracting job creating projects that strengthen and diversify Nevada's economy. Under my administration, various abated projects across many sectors have contributed to the record setting growth of high wage jobs for hard working Nevadans, including more than 3,000 construction jobs.

The Renewable Energy Tax Abatement (RETA) is clearly defined in statute under NRS 701A, and as the name would suggest, has applicability limited to approved renewable energy projects meeting certain statutory criteria. Since the RETA in question, which was approved in 2024 by the Governor's Office of Energy, is for a solar generation and storage project on land leased from Boulder City it would not be transferable to a data center, regardless of its location on federal land or land leased from Boulder City. Data center abatements are governed by NRS 360.754, administered by the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) and, importantly, cannot be awarded in conjunction with a RETA.

Regardless of the administrative office, abatements of any kind follow a thorough process of application and review which includes public reporting and multiple opportunities for public input. Abatements, whether for renewable energy or more general partial abatements governed by GOED, are also subject to timelines and requirements that require public reporting and accountability for jobs created both temporarily and permanently for Nevada residents, dollars invested, and benefits provided. All these conditions must be met to maintain eligibility for abated taxes, and the State maintains strong claw back provisions to recover abated dollars from projects which are not in compliance.

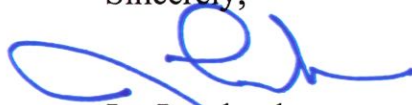
As you are aware, processes at the state and local levels in Nevada have a high degree transparency and offer significant opportunities for public participation and feedback. We also understand that Townsite Solar II is making an effort to address concerns regarding water, power noise and heat. Additionally, the proponents have stated that the plans for the data center on land leased from Boulder City are on hold, pending the results of a November ballot initiative regarding data center development in the city.

In the case of federal lands being leased, the processes for feedback, approvals and permitting are all governed under the Federal Lands Public Management Act (FLPMA). While my administration has remained active in partnering with Nevada's federal delegation on public lands related bills, and will continue to advocate for the benefit of all Nevadans, the authority to amend FLPMA requirements, timelines and public engagement thresholds lies with Congress.

It has also come to our attention that prior to sending me a letter, neither you nor your office interacted directly with the project proponent. As trusted public officials, we must engage on a meaningful level with all sides of matters, such as this, and ensure that public discourse, no matter how well-intended, does not allow for the proliferation and dissemination of misinformation.

Thank you, again, for taking the time to reach out on this important issue, and I hope we can work together in the most informed manner to support reasonable, predictable, and efficient processes for land disposal under appropriate circumstances. Please do not hesitate to reach out to my policy team with any further questions you may have.

Sincerely,



Joe Lombardo
Governor of Nevada