

May 17, 2010

Mr. Bob Abbey
Director,, U.S. Bureau of Land management
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Director Abbey,

Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER) is writing to you on behalf of former BLM planner Stacey Antilla, who recently had to quit her job in BLM's Tonopah, Nevada office due to abuses by management, including serious violations of environmental and cultural conservation requirements on the Vegas-Reno ORV race and at the Rhyolite ghost town.

I have enclosed a summary of her short, most unhappy experience in the Tonopah FO, which has, not surprisingly, experienced a high level of turnover.

We request your immediate attention to this matter to –

- Investigate and take strong action to stop and correct these legal and policy violations relating to resource protection;
- Review the quality of the management in the Tonopah FO; and
- Take steps to prevent other BLM employees from having the same types of on-the-job stress and harassment.

Director Abbey, once you have reviewed the summary we believe you will agree that these are serious violations. Moreover, we do believe that the management of the Tonoaph FO is bringing discredit on the BLM. In addition, the inhumane manner in which it treats employees, especially new employees, should not be encouraged.

Perhaps most importantly, it is vital for the future of BLM that it can recruit and retain competent and conscientious employees, such as Ms. Antilla.

We ask for your strong leadership to investigate this now and correct it. If you desire, PEER can facilitate your direct communication with Ms. Antilla.

PEER hopes to be able to help and support your efforts on this and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

Thank you,

Daniel R. Patterson
Southwest Director, PEER