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Sent: 1/23/2024 3:40:56 PM
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Subject: Public Comment Agenda Item 9 Operations and Governance Committee
Attachments: [Public Comment NV Leg Oversight Mtng on 1-23-24 TahoeCleanAir.org.pdf](#)

Dear TRPA Operations & Governance Committee Members,

Please make this comment and the attached letter to the Nevada TRPA and Marlette Lake Legislative Oversight Committee part of the record in connection with Agenda 9, Public Interest Comments 1-24-24.

I would simply like to ensure that the TRPA Operations and Governance Committee members are aware of the term Regulatory Capture as it applies to the TRPA.

Sincerely,
Doug Flaherty, President
Tahoe Sierra Clean Air Coalition (DBA TahoeCleanAir.org)
A Nevada 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Corporation
774 Mays Blvd 10-124
Incline Village, NV 89451



January 20, 2024

Re: Public Comment, Legislative Committee for the Review and Oversight of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency and the Marlette Lake Water System (Nevada Revised Statutes [NRS] 218E.555) on 1-23-24. Please make this written comment part of the record and minutes.

Dear Honorable Legislative Committee Members,

Hope sprang eternal when so many believed that the original 1969 Bi-State Compact forming the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) would function as the long-term environmental protector of the Lake Tahoe Basin, thereby consistently prioritizing environmental protection over the imbalance of man's-built environment.

However, that shared hope, faith, and confidence in the TRPA, over the last fifty-five years, has significantly degraded due to what many believe to be an environmental crisis, as we witness in real time the accelerated decline of our Tahoe Basin environment.

Since the original bi-state compact and the eventual adoption of the TRPA 2012 Regional Plan, it is obvious, that we are now living the foreboding famous quote, allegedly from Mark Twain, "history does not repeat itself, but it often rhymes".

Per the numerous public comments received by your committee and per the links below, TahoeCleanAir.org urgently request the committee to undertake the following actions:

Per NRS 218E.565 and 218E.570, before any recommendations are made to the legislature:

1. Hold a robust series of transparent bi-partisan public hearings into the budget, programs, activities, responsiveness, and accountability of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency. The purpose of the public hearings should include a closer study based on data, regarding the past, present and future role, authority, and activities of Tahoe Regional Planning Agency as well as its cumulative past, present and future public and private project approval impacts on the Lake Tahoe Basin.
2. Direct the Legislative Counsel Bureau to assist in its research, investigations, review, and study connected with these hearings.
3. Once the series of hearings are completed, recommend to the Legislature, the result of its review and study, any appropriate legislation.

To further illustrate the need for such hearings please review one of the most comprehensive and objective pieces of journalism to date, describing TRPA mismanagement. Central to this extremely valuable article is the internal link concerning "**regulatory capture**," located in the second paragraph, which helps to best describe the state of the TRPA today.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/travel/other/cronyism-puts-tahoe-at-severe-risk/ar-AA1nbkqg?ocid=socialshare>

Further expanding on the need for robust hearings, is the following article.

<https://www.nevadacurrent.com/2024/01/19/whos-protecting-tahoe-regulatory-agency-enamored-with-development-say-critics/>

Sincerely,

Doug Flaherty, President

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