

## **Dylan Rapaport**

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#### **1<sup>st</sup> Source**

For our first example under this reason, I will cite a Canadian Provincial Review Board, titled Ontario's Environmental Review Tribunal, which is comprised of prominent members of Canadian environmental services located in Ontario, and have the job to review the environmental impact on certain new developments in Ontario.

(EcoJustice, 2015) writes,

"Ontario's Environmental Review Tribunal decided that the deal appeared to be against the public interest and needed more public scrutiny. It offered a full hearing. But before a hearing date was set, Nestle withdrew their appeal and agreed to restrict the amount of water it pumps from the Ontario community during drought conditions. This victory protects the community's groundwater and is the first of its kind in Ontario's history".

This example exemplifies the overwhelming power that government has to contain the depletion of groundwater sources. In this case, the review tribunal was able to pressure one of the world's largest corporations and water extractors, Nestle, out of withdrawing water from the community of Ontario, and sought to act in protection of the public interest rather than the benefit of the government.

This source, EcoJustice, is a nonprofit group that is privately funded by environmentally funded donors and or financed by individual companies, solely for the purpose of environmental protection, however it does not have access to the same analysis of groundwater sources that the government has, and must supplement this research with their own, private studies.

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Source**

For the second example, a local California law concerning the state government's control of groundwater is debated. A new "water rule" is proposed by state congress and the government will monitor and limit water consumption by the residents of the state in an effort to reduce water usage. This area of California is among the driest in the nation, where a majority of water used by the people is taken from an offshoot of the Colorado River, and thus, the state of California is concerned with the depletion of its groundwater system. (Weiser, 2014) writes,

"Under the legislation, each of these landowners eventually would come under the jurisdiction of a new local "groundwater sustainability agency." These agencies would prepare a groundwater plan, which, for the first time, will set rules on when and how much water each well owner can pump. The local agency could be a county government entity or a new entity formed by residents specifically to comply with the law."

It is important to note in this example, that even though all the benefits of a government control of water are found, i.e., the depletion of the groundwater source, the people still obtain a somewhat substantial control of the water, even when the government has its way with the control of water.

The source, Mathew Weiser, is a local journalist of Sacramento writing for a local newspaper in California, however, the research discussed in this article features prominent Californian representatives and their opinions on the legislation as well as statistics collected by the state about groundwater.