

Massive tree planting in Reno far from sprouting

By Jeff DeLong, Reno Gazette-Journal

More than three months after announcing plans to plant up to 3 million carbon-sucking trees north of Reno, the exact status of an Australian company's Smoke Creek project remains unclear.

Representatives of the EC02 Forests Inc. international forestry company say they remain "100 percent committed" to their project. But plans for a ground-breaking event in May were postponed and top company executives have not responded to repeated requests for interviews with the Reno Gazette-Journal.

In an e-mail statement to the newspaper July 9, EC02 Forests representative Andrew Laing said the company intends to proceed.

"EC02 Forests remain 100 percent committed to the U.S. sustainable forest program in Washoe County," Laing wrote. "We aim to ensure this project delivers long-term employment for hundreds of Washoe County locals."

In April the company, based in Queensland, Australia, announced plans to plant up to 3 million "kiri" trees on 14,000 acres near Winnemucca Ranch Road, with initial planting to commence in May. The company reported it was working with Jaksick Entities, landowners in the area.

Read the whole story