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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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Executive Director

Division of Water Rights

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Cedar City Distribution System Distribution Engineer's Report January 27, 2010

I have had the pleasure of working with Sam Bauer this past year, he has have been effective as your Water Commissioner for a number of years now. He is familiar with the system and works to resolve issues and works to improve monitoring and measurement where needed. Sam took water readings at the start of irrigation season and at regular intervals during the summer until the water season ended. He has been very conscientious in his efforts as water commissioner.

In July 2009, Lee Sim, Kurt Vest and I met with Sam and toured parts of the system. A number of sites in the valley were briefly inspected, regarding changes in types of use, and transfers. Many portions of the valley are in the process of converting from farm use to developed residential lots, however many lots are unoccupied and the transition has stalled due to the current economy. The Cedar City water rights office investigated questions arising from the tour and determined water rights were accurate in addressing the uses taking place. No violations were found.

Sam was able to attend training on water commissioner duties and reporting of water use during the fall. He is entering surface diversion data and that information is contained in his report.

My concerns on the system include:

- Reliability of the newly retrofitted diversion structure to deliver the full amount of the surface water rights
- Numerous changes in place and type of use have occurred in the valley and require updates to the accounts.
- Numerous delinquent accounts are most likely due to bad address or assessments being mailed to deceased account holders. If you have updated information on these accounts please let me know. Please see the delinquent account listing at the end of the financial report.
- Distribution Account updates can be accomplished by contacting me. The water users need to complete a Report of Conveyance when rights are sold or transferred and there are changes in ownership.
- Consideration by the State of Utah to conduct mapping is being considered however manpower and staffing levels are not adequate to support effort this as yet.

I appreciate working with the water users if you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at (801) 538-7430 or by email at MikeSilva@Utah.gov

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Silva

Distribution Engineer

