

LHS - fyi



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Reply to:

Vernal Office

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ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

Michael Quealy
Assistant Attorney General
236 State Capitol Building
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

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ATTORNEY GENERAL
NATURAL RESOURCE AC

Dear Mr. Quealy;

After the meeting in Heber City with personnel from the State Engineer Office and your office and the Uintah Basin Irrigation Co. I discussed with our clients possible alternatives to the things discussed with you.

One idea which could be considered would be to have the State Engineer distribute to the Uintah Basin Irrigation Company, four and one half (4-1/2) acre feet of water per acre at the river diversion. One half acre foot of that could be for conveyance losses because the Uintah Basin Irrigation Company Canal is the longest on the system as I understand it. I am told that most of those who divert from the river irrigate with it in a very short distance from the points of diversion. State Engineer then could report this as four (4) acre feet per acre with something added for conveyance loss. Alternatively the measurement could be made at the field headgate rather than at the river diversion, but that would require some kind of measurement at each farm.

If the Uintah Basin Irrigation Company could get the 4-1/2 acre feet at the point of diversion for their canal, plus their storage water, they would be close to what they believe the law would allow them for their beneficial use. That may be easier than some of the other proposals which we discussed. Uintah Basin Irrigation Company is not saying do not proceed with the other proposals discussed, it however, did wanted me to pass along this possible alternative.

Very truly yours,

McKEACHNIE, ALLRED & BUNNELL

Gayle F. McKeachnie