



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

March 18, 1994

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Governor

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AMENDED NOTICE OF AGENCY ACTION

TO THE MILFORD WATER USERS:

In March 1992, a notice was sent to the water users in the Milford Area to inform them of the need to install functional measuring devices on the wells in the area. The notice was sent at the request of the water users at the annual meeting. The notice informed the water users of the State Engineer's intention to enforce the state statute 73-5-4 and the existing court decree concerning measuring devices.

By the beginning of 1993, it was determined that the information of record concerning the wells in the area needed to be updated. A mapping project of each well location was completed during the 1993 irrigation season along with research concerning the water rights involved with each well.

Also during 1993, another method for measuring the amount of water pumped was approved by the distribution committee as an alternative to water meters. This method involves the use of a pitot tube and manometer and the information from the KWH meter.

These two developments were not foreseen when the 1992 notice was issued, so it is appropriate that an "Amended Notice of Agency Action" be issued. Therefore, you are hereby notified that all wells within the Milford Area Distribution System are to be equipped with functional and accurate water meters prior to the start of the 1994 irrigation season OR the water users are to subscribe for the pitot tube measurement alternative prior to April 15, 1994. The attached rules describe how to subscribe for the pitot tube alternative.

Each irrigation well will be inspected right after the beginning of irrigation to make sure that all wells either have operational water meters or that the wells to be measured by pitot tube have been appropriately tapped as described in the attached rules. Those water users who are not in compliance will be ordered to cease the use of water. The mapping and water rights research completed in 1993 will allow the state engineer to pursue court enforcement of the cease use order as soon as necessary. Follow-up inspections to determine compliance will be held periodically through the irrigation season.



AMENDED NOTICE OF AGENCY ACTION
MILFORD WATER USERS
Continued -Page 2-

This is an informal adjudicative proceeding which is being conducted pursuant to Rules R655-6 of the Administrative Rules of the Division of Water Rights.

Please contact Lee Sim (538-7380) or Gerald Stoker (586-4231) if you have any questions concerning this notice.

Sincerely,



Robert L. Morgan, P.E.
State Engineer

RLM:LHS:bd

cc: S Lee H. Sim
Gerald Stoker
Richard Jefferson
John H. Mabey, Jr. Asst. Attorney

RULES FOR THE PITOT TUBE METHOD FOR 1994:

1. Water users must send a written request to the water commissioner by April 15, 1994. Verbal requests for this service will not be accepted. This requirement applies even to those users who submitted a written request in 1993. The request submitted in 1994 will be the last request required for continuing pitot tube service for future years. New requests will only be necessary in the future if new wells are put into production. For electric pumps, the request must include the KWH meter number or the UP&L account number associated with each well to be measured by pitot tube.

2. Users with electric pumps must complete the enclosed UP&L release form and return it to the commissioner with the written request. The commissioner will forward the release form to the power company.

3. Users with diesel pumps must install an hour meter prior to the start of irrigation in 1994. Any evidence that the meter has been disconnected or otherwise tampered with during the season will result in immediate cancellation of the pitot tube service and the water user will be ordered to cease pumping until a reliable meter is installed.

4. Water users must have the ball valve installed on each well discharge pipe which will be measured by pitot tube before the start of irrigation in 1994. The ball valve must be installed as shown on the enclosed drawing.

5. The cost of the pitot tube service will be \$25 per measurement. It is anticipated that the commissioner will make two measurements this year, so a \$50 special assessment will be sent to each water user who subscribes for the pitot tube alternative. If the written request is received by the commissioner after April 15, 1994, a \$25.00 surcharge will be added. No written requests will be accepted after May 1, 1994.

6. If the water user is delinquent in paying his regular distribution assessment after June 1, 1994, the pitot tube service will be canceled immediately and the water user will be ordered to cease pumping until a reliable meter is installed.

THE PITOT TUBE ALTERNATIVE FOR WELL MEASUREMENT

With this method, a pitot tube device is inserted through tapped holes in the pipe and the velocity of the water in the pipe is measured with an attached glass tube manometer. The production rate of the well can then be calculated. The information from an hour meter such as a KWH meter records the number of hours the pump was operated so the amount of water pumped can be calculated.

The pitot tube used during the 1993 irrigation season was the same as the one used by the power company and required that the pump be shut down so it could be inserted and then restarted to measure the flow. Shutting down the pump and restarting it is a time consuming process. If the pump is not allowed to stabilize after restarting, the measurement of the flow is slightly inaccurate.

After the end of the irrigation season, the division staff became aware of another type of pitot tube device which can be inserted into the pipeline without shutting down the pump. After some discussion, the distribution system committee decided this new pitot tube should be purchased to eliminate pumping down time for the water users and to make the commissioners efforts more efficient. The tapped holes which were used for the UP&L type pitot tube will not work for the new type of pitot tube, a larger tapped hole and a ball valve will be required. The enclosed drawing shows the requirements for the new device. **The larger hole and ball valve will be required for all water users who will be measured by pitot tube in 1994.**

The distribution committee decided to allow the pitot tube method to be also used, on a trial basis, on wells with diesel powered pumps. In this case, an engine hour meter will be used to determine hours of operation instead of the KWH meter. The committee expressed some reservation about engine hour meters because they can be easily disconnected and then reconnected to falsify the total time of operation. It was decided to allow the engine hour meters this year and review the results at the end of the year. If it appears that diesel engine hour meters cannot be successfully used, the committee may decide to not allow the pitot tube alternative for diesel pumps in the future.

The committee also decided that if a water meter goes bad during the season, the pitot tube could be used to replace the meter until it is repaired. This would require that the pump be shut down so the pipe could be tapped and the ball valve installed. Water users could avoid the possibility of being shut down by having the ball valve installed prior to the start of irrigation.