



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

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June 3, 1993

TO THE MILFORD WATER USERS:

Since the start of the 1992 irrigation season, this office has undertaken an effort to ensure that water meters are installed and functional on all the irrigation wells in the Milford area. This effort has come in response to requests from water users, and due to the ground water situation in your area.

In several meetings, and in conversations with individual water users, an alternative has been proposed for measuring the water instead of installing water meters. The proposal was to obtain the same type of water measuring device used by UP&L and have the commissioner use in conjunction with the power meter readings collected by UP&L to determine the amount of water pumped each year. After some discussion, the distribution system purchased the type of measuring device used by UP&L and arranged for the power company to train the commissioner to operate it. After observing the operation of the measuring device, we feel that under certain conditions, it could be utilized with the power meter readings to adequately measure water use.

Therefore, if the following conditions and requirements are met, water users will be allowed to use power meter readings for water measurement instead of installing a water meter:

- a. The well pump must have an electric motor. Water meters will be required if a diesel motor or a combination of diesel and electric motors are used on the well during the season.
- b. 1993 water users must send a written request for this service to the commissioner within 10 days of the date of this mailing. In following years, the water users must send a written request to the commissioner before the annual distribution system meeting. Each water user must make a new request to the commissioner each year in order to continue this service.
- c. The water user must sign the enclosed release form and return it to the power company to allow the commissioner to obtain power meter data from UP&L.

- d. The water users will be responsible to have their pipes tapped to enable the insertion of the measuring device into the pipe. The pipe must be tapped at the location specified by the commissioner (as much as possible, in accordance with the installation instructions for the device). The distribution system will have a special tool available for tapping the pipe. The commissioner is willing to tap the pipe for the water user for a fee of \$25.
- e. The commissioner will require a measurement of the pump flow with the measuring device, approximately three times, at the least (and perhaps more) per season. The water user will be required to meet with the commissioner when requested and assist as needed (shutting off pump etc.) to measure the flow produced by the well. This is a start up year, therefore the commissioner will probably only be able to make one measurement this year. In following years, the flows will be measured at least three times per season.
- f. There will be a special fee charged each year to those water users who choose this method to pay the commissioner for the extra work which this method involves. The amount of the fee for this year will be \$25. The fee is low this year due to the commissioner making only one measurement. In following years, the fee will be higher based on the number of measurements to be made by the commissioner. The commissioner will give the Division of Water Rights a list of the water users who have signed up for this service. The fee will be assessed this year by a special mailing to all water users who qualify and who sign up for this method of water measurement. In following years, the special fee will be included with the regular annual assessment. This year this special fee must be paid within 20 days of mailing the special notice. In following years, those users whose assessments (including both the regular assessment and the special fee) are not paid before the start of the irrigation season will not be eligible for this option.
- g. There may be a need for the commissioner to read the power meter at the time of the flow measurement. If the meter is enclosed in a box, the water user will need to make sure the commissioner is able to read the meter.

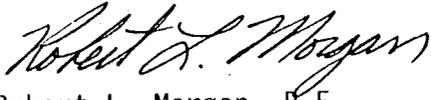
If the water users fail to meet any of the above conditions, the State Engineer will issue an order to cease the use of water until either the conditions are met or a water meter is installed.

The water users who choose this method must realize that the UP&L device measures the total of both air and water in the pipe flow. If the well is pumping some air, the measurement will indicate more water flow than is actually being pumped. If this concerns the water user, he will be responsible to make the necessary changes to his system to remove the air to allow a more accurate measurement.

This will apply to all wells in the Milford Distribution System. Recommendations are available on how to remove air from the pipe system to allow an accurate measurement, but it is the water user's responsibility to implement them. If the water measurement depends upon a water meter and there is enough air in the flow to prevent the water meter from operating properly, changes to the system (air valves etc.) will be ordered by the State Engineer to ensure the proper operation of the water meter.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, do not hesitate to contact either Lee Sim, Assistant State Engineer for Distribution, at (801) 538-7380, or Gerald Stoker, Regional Engineer, at (801) 586-4231.

Sincerely,



Robert L. Morgan, P.E.
State Engineer

RLM:LHS:bd

cc: Lee Sim
Gerald Stoker
John Mabey, Asst. Attorney General
Richard Jefferson, Commissioner

June 3, 1993

Dear Electric Pump Water User:

The Division of Water Rights is requesting permission to obtain the KWH usage information from the irrigation accounts at Utah Power & Light to assist in determining water use in the Milford area. Please complete the form below and return this letter to the Utah Power & Light office at 250 E. 6th Ave., Milford.

RELEASE FORM

_____ I give permission for Utah Power and Light to give the readings on my irrigation accounts to the Division of Water Rights or to the duly appointed Water Commissioner.

_____ I do not give permission.

Dated: _____

Irrigator