

**Response to John L. Chidester:**

The purpose of the proposed distribution plan is to promote the most efficient use of the resource available in the basin in light of the changes occurring in water use patterns. While I agree with your basic concept of conserving water, much of what you suggest lies outside the statutory authority granted to the State Engineer. Be assured that I will do all I can, within my authority and the law, to protect existing water rights and promote their efficient use.

**FILENAME:  BLLRSPNS.UTL**