



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

April 29, 1994

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor

Ted Stewart
Executive Director

Robert L. Morgan
State Engineer

1636 West North Temple, Suite 220
Salt Lake City, UT 84116-3156
801-538-7240
801-538-7467 (Fax)

MICHAEL O SPENCER
YOST ROUTE
MALTA ID 83342

Dear Michael:

I am directing this letter to all the water commissioners in the state. As we begin this irrigation season, I want to commend you and thank you for your dedicated efforts of past years to make the distribution of water as fair and as consistent as possible. It appears this will be a somewhat water short year again in many areas of the state. Especially in years like this, your work provides the stability necessary for a successful irrigation season.

The proper daily operation and regulation of each distribution system is very important and should take top priority especially during the peaks of the water use season. Of equal importance from a long range perspective is an accurate record of the water diverted to or used by each water user on the system. These records are invaluable in determining the water use patterns and historical practices in each of the areas of the state. This information is often very helpful in resolving distribution questions (especially if there is a new commissioner on the system) and it is important in resolving issues in lawsuits. It is also used by engineers or water planners in formulating or developing improvement projects.

Providing this information is one of the main responsibilities both of the water commissioners and the Division of Water Rights. We receive requests on a weekly and sometimes daily basis to answer questions based on this information. As water issues become more complex, the data you collect becomes more and more important. Therefore, it is critical that the data be as accurate as possible and that it be submitted to the division in as timely a manner as possible.

Most commissioners submit the annual reports before or at the annual meeting with the distribution system. We would encourage all commissioners to meet this schedule where possible, however, at the very latest, the reports should be received in our office by April 30 each year.



Annual Report
Continued -Page 2-

We appreciate those commissioners who have faithfully submitted their reports on time each year, but some have not been as diligent. In the past, we have not made much of an issue of submitting reports late (in some cases, even years late), however, because of the increasing importance of the data, we can no longer follow this course. Failing to submit the report on time will be considered seriously each year in our decisions on commissioner appointments. Failure to submit a report or repeated late reports will be cause for not re-appointing a commissioner.

If there is a reason why you cannot meet the schedule outlined above please contact Lee Sim at 538-7380, otherwise this policy will be implemented beginning with the 1994 annual reports.

Sincerely,



Robert L. Morgan, P.E.
State Engineer

cc: Lee Sim
Regional Offices