

September 10, 1993

To the Granite/Red Cedar Water Users:

This letter is in response to comments received from George Douglass and Cecil Garland concerning our plan for water measurement on the Granite/Red Cedar Distribution System.

Section 73-5-4 of the Utah Code Annotated, 1953, as amended is not specific in stating the type of measuring device that each water user is required to install. It simply states that they should be of such design as the state engineer may approve. Also, the court stipulation between Douglasses and the Red Cedar Corporation wasn't specific in the type of measuring devices which should be installed.

As a general rule the state engineer has not established a policy requiring water users to install totalizing meters at each point of diversion. In some instances they are required and the state engineer has ordered that they be installed. However, in distribution systems similar in make-up and complexity to yours, the state engineer has generally not required the installation of totalizing meters. Typically in these type of systems, flumes or weirs have been acceptable and the river commissioner visits them on a weekly basis to take a reading of the water flow. The flow during the entire week preceding is assumed to have been the same as on the date of the reading. Granted, this is only an approximation of the actual flow to the water user but it has been sufficient in most instances.

Cecil Garland has reported to us that the measurements are presently taken at approximately the same time of day. He is concerned that the average flows determined by this method will result in erroneous calculations of the water delivered to Red Cedar Corp. because of the daily fluctuations of Granite Creek. He feels that a totalizer meter is needed to accurately account for the daily fluctuations. Perhaps a totalizing meter would be helpful but, we are hesitant to order that one be installed at this time. It appears that in the near future a totalizer will be included in the construction of the hydropower plant. This position maybe reconsidered if the power plant is not built.

Cecil also commented that once a week readings may be excessive during some periods of the year. We agree and would modify our measurement plan as follows. Flow measurements need only be taken once a month during the period from January 1 till the beginning of the high runoff. During the high runoff,

measurements should be taken weekly because of the variable nature of the flow. From the end of high runoff until the commissioner estimates that Red Cedar Corp. has three weeks of water left, measurements should be taken biweekly. Three weeks prior to the end of Red Cedar's irrigation right, the commissioner shall begin measuring the flow again on a weekly basis. This should continue until the Red Cedar right has been filled; afterwards monthly measurements will suffice. If the fluctuation of the stream flow during the day is a concern, we would suggest that the time of measurement be varied from week to week to get a better average of the stream flow .

Please contact me if you have any questions or further concerns.

Sincerely,

Lee H. Sim, P.E.  
Assistant State Engineer for  
Distribution/Adjudication

LHS:bd

cc: Cecil Garland  
John Mann