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STATE OF UTAH
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
P.O. Box 506
622 North Main
Cedar City, Utah 84720
March 19, 1971

DIVISION OF
WATER RIGHTS

HUBERT C. LAMBERT
State Engineer

GERALD W. STOKER
Area Engineer

MEMORANDUM

TO: Hubert C. Lambert, State Engineer

FROM: Gerald W. Stoker, Area Engineer

SUBJECT: Alvey Wash, Escalante River

On March 17, 1971, Gerald W. Stoker and Wm. Joe Melling met with the following water users on Alvey Wash to discuss the location and type of measuring device to be installed at or near the points of diversion on Alvey Wash.

Leo Wilson has three ditches and will need a 9" or 12" Parshall Flume on his upper ditch to be located above the storage reservoir. He will require a totalizing meter on his sprinkler system. The water is run through an earthen ditch into a sump where it is picked up by the pumping system. Whenever the power is shut off the water will back up and is diverted across the wash into his lower ditch where it is used for flood irrigation. We should consider the need for a measuring device on his lower ditch but Mr. Wilson claims that it will only be used whenever the sprinkler system is shut down.

Thurman Spencer is considering the possibility of putting in a pumping station where he will lift the water from a sump in a slough area adjacent to the wash and pump into the irrigation system. If he goes this way he will need to equip his system with a totalizing meter. We advised him that he should design this type of measuring device into his plans to pump the water. This matter has been discussed with Leo Wilson and his counsel, Allen Tibbals, and apparently they would agree to this situation, under this temporary court order, if it separates the Wilson and Spencer diversions.

J. C. Spencer (McKay Bailey) was advised that a 9" or 12" Parshall Flume would have to be installed between the diversion dam and the storage pond. We located a site where the flume could be set and where any surplus of water could be turned back into the wash above the next users diversion point. Mr. Bailey assured me that he would pursue the purchase and installation of the flume and that a ditch will be cut to convey the water back into the natural channel.

Paul Steed (Zelma Wilson's rights) has installed a 12" Parshall Flume just above his storage pond. The flume is located approximately 2200 feet below the point of diversion from Alvey Wash. In order to reach the point of diversion it is necessary to cross several pieces of fenced property (different owners). The ditch is composed of a clay material situated

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above a thin gravel strata. The seepage that Mr. Ronnow was concerned about comes through this gravel lens and was evident on the day of our inspection. The ditch was dry and there had been no water in the ditch, except storm and snow melt since last fall. The water turned into Mr. Steed's system could be easily regulated at the present flume site. The flume was out of adjustment and Mr. Steed was instructed to correct this situation.

Vay Barney was not notified of the meeting and we were not able to meet with him. I would suggest that an order be sent to him from our office or from the court informing him of the action and the need for a measuring device and control gate.

We were able to interview one of the applicants for the commissioners job, Bill Hathaway, who resides in Escalante, Utah. I believe that he has the qualifications for the job and would be fair in his administration of the water rights. Mr. Wingfield, the other potential commissioner, lives in Boulder and is serving as watermaster for the Boulder Irrigation Company. We were unable to meet with him but we will continue our attempts to contact him and evaluate the situation.

There is water available in Alvey Wash at the present time and we should make every effort to set up this system and allow the users the right to irrigate with this water. I assume that the water users are awaiting official notice from the court with regards to the purchase and installation of the measuring devices and the distribution of the water. As I have stated, some of them indicated to me that they have ordered a Parshall Flume and are awaiting delivery of said flume.

Please keep me advised of any action necessary from this office.

cc: Donald C. Norseth