



THE STATE OF UTAH
OFFICE OF STATE ENGINEER
SALT LAKE CITY

WAYNE D. CRIDDLE
STATE ENGINEER

April 1, 1964

Mr. Morgan Hall
Chairman
Vernal Area Distribution System
Vernal, Utah

Re: Vernal Area

Dear Mr. Hall:

We sincerely appreciate your frank letter of March 31, 1964, regarding distribution on Brush and Ashley Creeks. It is not the desire of this office to force distribution on any group of water users who can solve their problems without our supervision.

We will cooperate with you in any way that we can within our limited appropriations for water administration. However, since the law specifies that distribution must be paid for by the local water users, our actual allocation to this work is largely limited to two men with responsibilities throughout the state.

Sincerely,

Wayne D. Criddle
STATE ENGINEER

WDC/le

bcc/ Bob Guy
Frank Reese ✓

March 31, 1964

Mr. Wayne D. Criddle
Utah State Engineer
State Capitol Building
Salt Lake City, Utah

Dear Mr. Criddle:

Since receiving your letter of March 25 addressed to me as chairman of the Vernal area distribution system I have moved as fast as possible. I am sure you will realize that calling together all of the interested parties on a matter as important as this is necessarily slow. All members were notified and all users were represented except one company.

The Committee was disappointed in learning that the suggestions of the local water users could not be incorporated in the water operation policy as requested. While we regret you cannot follow our recommendations, the Committee felt that if not, they would comply with your request and petition the Court to release your office from any distribution responsibilities on Brush and Ashley creeks.

While Pot Creek was represented at the meeting, the representatives realized that this Court has no jurisdiction over it, and therefore did not participate in the meeting, but expect to continue under the jurisdiction of the State Engineer.

This was also true of the lower users of Deep Creek. The upper users of Deep Creek were present and stated that they had requested that the Upper Deep Creek Users not be included in the request for a commissioner, since they have been and are able to handle their own distribution problems. If the lower Deep Creek people are before the Court it is in another case.

This leaves the water users of Ashley Creek now under the jurisdiction of the Court under Civil Case No. 18 in the Fourth Judicial District Court of the State of Utah and the users of Brush Creek under the provisions of Civil Case No. 12 of the above mentioned Court. The users of these two systems voted 15 to 4 to petition the Court to release the State Engineer from any distribution responsibility on Brush and Ashley Creeks and in this Petition to recommend the appointment of a local commissioner.

Mr. Wayne D. Criddle
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The Committee asked me to report to you that this action is taken principally for two reasons: First, that the water users must cooperate and agree as amicably as possible with reference to the distribution of this water. The second reason is that by doing this the expenses may be greatly reduced.

May I assure you that this problem was given the most complete consideration time would permit. You will realize that the manner in which our water is conserved, used, and managed is of most vital importance to the local users. However, the feeling of the majority of the persons present at this meeting was that it is our problem and we better handle it.

I sincerely hope we are taking the right action. May I assure you that there is nothing against your office or its employees of a personal nature. The action taken by the water users yesterday was in the interest of developing the best long time distribution system and management possible. We will naturally need cooperation from your office.

Very truly yours,

Morgan Hall, Chairman
Vernal Area Distribution System