



THE STATE OF UTAH
OFFICE OF STATE ENGINEER
SALT LAKE CITY

ED. H. WATSON
STATE ENGINEER

February 24, 1948

RE: PRICE RIVER DISTRIBUTION

Memorandum for Office Study Only, by L. C. MONSON

On February 17 the Price River Water Users annual meeting was held, and among the items discussed was the method heretofore used in computing the assessments.

In the past the water users have been assessed on the 5-year average acre feet of water used on the natural flow of the stream, and the Price River Conservation District has been assessed for the storage water delivered to the various users. In order for the Conservation District to collect this money the users have been taxed by the Water Conservation District. During the past year no tax was collected for this purpose, it having been decided by the water users and the district that the water users would be assessed directly for the total amount of water used from all sources during the irrigation season. For this reason the 1947 assessment was not paid by the Water Conservation District. At the meeting it was decided that the district would pay the delinquent assessment of \$512.00 for 1947, and that the district would not be assessed or pay in the future.

The water users agreed that they would prefer to be assessed on the total water used, both from natural and storage sources, this assessment to be made by the State Engineer. The natural flow of the storage water delivered is listed in the water commissioners' annual reports separately, and entails simply getting the new five-year average for the same water users, an average which will show the total water used rather than from the natural source. Inasmuch as the same users would be assessed for the total flow as have been assessed in the past on the natural flow, the water users could not see any reason why this could not be done. It was explained to them that assessments have been made in the past on the basis of natural flow for the users and that the district was assessed on the storage water for the reason that the storage water belonged to the district. However, the district has now decided, and in agreement with the water users present at the meeting, that they prefer to have assessments made on the basis of total water used. This will not entail any more work on the part of the office, except for the present year, when new averages must be computed from the water commissioners' reports.

LCM/vm