



**THE STATE OF UTAH**  
**OFFICE OF STATE ENGINEER**  
**SALT LAKE CITY**

**WAYNE D. CRIDDLE**  
STATE ENGINEER

TO: All Water Users Committees

August 31, 1962

FROM: Wayne D. Criddle

SUBJECT: Distribution costs of administering water

From time to time, a number of you have ask if it would not be possible and desirable to try to amend the laws of the state so that water distribution could be handled under state appropriated funds instead of by the present assessment method. In reviewing the procedures used in other states, we find that such a practice has developed and is being used in most of the western states. Since all people are water users, and since distribution of all water by commissioners is more and more necessary as our uses increase and become more complex, there seems to be a real justification for such procedures. Perhaps the step taken to place the distribution moneys in the State Treasury is one which should lead further to the use of state appropriated funds for this most important function. Proper distribution of water is vital to all of the people of the state.

You will note from the accompanying memorandum that we are collecting about \$121,000.00 from the 25 systems for water distribution. There are a number of other stream systems in the state badly in need of distribution and desperately trying to get our help in setting up a commissioner.

Unfortunately, we are limited from this office on how fast we can grow and since 1957 we have added 13 additional new systems under our distribution program. At the present time, we are committing about \$60,000.00 of our appropriation funds to distribution. Thus, we are spending, including your funds, some \$181,000.00 for distribution in the state. We believe we could cover the entire state for about \$200,000.00 per year if that much could be used from the general appropriation funds. However, such a procedure may not be any more desirable to the water users of the state than is our present operation. This is a matter which the people will have to decide at sometime in the future. Perhaps you may like to discuss this at our next annual meeting with each committee.

We appreciate your support of our present program and hope that we are meeting your distribution needs in so far as we can do so.

Sincerely,

*Wayne D. Criddle*

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