

February 6, 2003

Notice to Water Users:

On Thursday, February 20, 2003, the State Engineer will hold a public meeting to discuss the development and management of the ground-water resources of Pahvant Valley. The meeting will be held at 2:00 P.M. in the Millard County Commissioners Chambers, 60 South Main Street in Fillmore.

At the meeting the present water rights policy for Pahvant Valley will be discussed, along with an update of water right filings, ground-water levels, ground-water quality, and other related issues. One of the major purposes of the meeting will be to allow water users the opportunity to provide input to the State Engineer on his current ground-water research and a proposed ground-water management strategy for Pahvant Valley.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, but would like to provide input, please send your written comments:

Division of Water Rights
Southern Regional Office
130 North Main Street
P.O. Box 563
Richfield, UT 84701-0563

Your participation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jerry D. Olds, P.E.
State Engineer

In accordance with the Americans with Disability Act, individuals needing special accommodations should notify Gail Nelson at the address in the letterhead at least three (3) days prior to the meeting.



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

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NEWS RELEASE
February 6, 2003

PUBLIC MEETING ON PAHVANT VALLEY
WATER SCHEDULED

A public meeting to discuss the development and management of the ground-water resources of Pahvant Valley will be held Thursday, February 20, 2003.

At previous public meetings, the State Engineer presented research which indicates that the inflow to the Pahvant Valley ground-water system averages about 70,000 acre-feet per year. However, in the last 10 years, ground-water withdrawals have averaged about 78,000 acre-feet per year. Over 98% of this water is used for irrigation with the remainder being used for public supply, industrial and other uses. Jerry Olds, State Engineer, stated: "With the exception of the wet years of 1983-1985, the overall trend of ground-water levels in Pahvant Valley has been consistently downward since 1960. During the past 20 years, the water level in wells in the valley have decreased between 30 and 50 feet." Given this data, the State Engineer has concluded that a revision of his policy on Pahvant Valley ground water may be in order.

Information will be presented regarding water right filings, ground-water levels, ground-water quality and elements of a proposed revision to the ground-water management plan.

One of the major purposes of the meeting will be to allow water users the opportunity to provide input to the State Engineer on his current ground-water research and the proposed revision to the ground-water management strategy for Pahvant Valley.

The State Engineer will conduct the meeting which will take place at 2:00 PM in the Millard County Commissioners' Chambers, 60 South Main Street in Fillmore, Utah.

For more information contact Jerry Olds at 801-538-7240.