



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

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Dear Water User:

Thank you for your interest in the water resources of Pahvant Valley and/or your attendance at the recent water users' meeting in Fillmore.

As was explained at the meeting, we believe there is a serious overdraft of ground water in the valley and that we need to take steps to rectify this problem. The main purpose of the meeting was to explain the situation to the water users and to solicit comments and suggestions on how to best resolve the problems.

I realize that a great deal of information was presented at the meeting and that you may not have fully understood the potential alternatives presented. Based on the data and information before me, I believe the following actions need to be taken:

Survey acreages to determine if any lands are being irrigated without a water right; then make certain that those lands are removed from production, or that a valid water right is transferred to them;

Update the water appropriation and change policy. Among the changes that could be considered would be closing the basin to new appropriations of water, and setting criteria for transferring existing water rights;

Limit total withdrawals from wells to an average of 60,000 acre-feet per year over a 5-year moving average;

Cut water rights by priority date to meet the 60,000 acre-feet limitation; and

Meter wells and appoint a water commissioner.

While these measures should solve the problem, there may be other alternatives. Now, that you have had time to think over the information presented, I would like to know whether you think we have a serious problem in Pahvant Valley, and what you believe is the best way to proceed. Enclosed is a self-addressed, stamped envelope for your use in supplying me your comments. Please take a few minutes to let me know what you think should be done, and how to do it. Your input is important and will be seriously considered.

Again, thank you for your interest in this matter and for your attendance at the meeting. I look forward to receiving your comments and suggestions.

Sincerely,


Robert L. Morgan, P.E.
State Engineer

RLM:nj

Enclosure

