

January 9, 2012

Kent L. Jones, State Engineer
Division of Water Rights
1594 West North Temple, Suite 220
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Re: Comments to Draft Beryl Enterprise Groundwater Management Plan

Mr. Jones:

In reviewing the October 7, 2011 Draft Beryl Enterprise Groundwater Management Plan, I note several areas of concern these concerns are as follows:

1. Many of the water rights listed in the Water Right Diversion/Depletion/Priority schedule have no diversion or depletion amounts associated with them. This renders the schedule inaccurate and of questionable value in determining the water rights that will be affected by Table 1—Groundwater Management Plan Regulation Schedule. Hopefully, these amounts will be determined and inserted into the schedule in the near future.
2. The Draft Plan appears to ignore the interaction and interconnection between surface water sources which are not regulated or restricted under the Draft Plan and the aquifers from which groundwater is withdrawn. Arguably, if surface waters are left undiverted, the undiverted waters will recharge the declining aquifers. Therefore, the regulation of surface water diversions according to priority should also be an integral part of a final plan.
4. Enforcement of beneficial use limitations does not appear to be a part of the Draft Plan. Enforcement of surface-water supplied acreage as well as groundwater supplied acreage should be a part of the plan.
5. There may be unregulated withdrawals of underground water within the management area, such as pumping from mines, that are contributing to the decline in groundwater levels. There Draft Plan should contain provisions to investigate the existence, and extent of, these unregulated withdrawals, and if they exist, provisions to have these withdrawals returned to the aquifer.

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January 9, 2012
Page 2

Thanks for the opportunity to comment on this Draft Plan.

Sincerely,



Kendrick J. Hafen

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