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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Division of Water Rights

ROBERT L. MORGAN JERRY D. OLDS
Executive Director *State Engineer/Division Director*

September 21, 2004

Dear Water Users:

The purpose of this letter is to apprise you of events subsequent to the public meeting held in Tooele, Utah on July 7, 2004 regarding the Northeast Boundary Plume at the Tooele Army Depot (TAD). The meeting was held to consider a proposal to amend the State Engineer's Tooele Valley Ground-Water Management Plan to ban the drilling of new wells in the TCE affected area northeast of TAD.

Data was presented at the meeting by EMH Engineering (consultants to the U.S. Army) and this Division. This presentations may be viewed on the Internet through the Division's website located at <http://waterrights.utah.gov>.

A comment letter, dated July 26, 2004, was received from the Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA). Based on the data presented at the meeting, SITLA requested that the proposal be modified to prohibit new culinary wells in the effected area until the ground water meets accepted drinking water standards. This would permit SITLA to develop non-culinary wells on their property, if the need should arise in the future. This change in the proposal was discussed at the meeting and appears to fit within the scope of the requested restrictions.

Tooele County submitted a comment letter requesting a ban on cross-valley change applications. The State Engineer is considering the merits of the request and is not acting on it at this time.

Effective the date of this letter, the management plan is amended to read: All applications which contemplate drilling wells and withdrawing ground water for culinary purposes within the TAD Northeast Boundary Plume Management Area shown on the accompanying figure will be denied unless data is presented which conclusively establishes the water can be used without adverse affects to human health or negatively impact the plume containment and cleanup program currently in progress.

I thank you for your interest in the protection and management of the water resources of Tooele Valley.

Sincerely,

Jerry D. Olds, P.E.
State Engineer

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Tooele

