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JAN 31 2007

WATER RIGHTS  
SALT LAKE

Date: January 19, 2007

To: Utah Water Engineer

From: James W. Day - Landowner, water rights owner, farmer/rancher in Argyle Canyon

Subject: Argyle Canyon Water Concerns

There seems to be a certain amount of credit to the new proposal for water in Argyle Canyon. However, it appears that there is a great deal of SPECULATION on how this will affect the surface flows in the creek. I fail to understand how the State of Utah can continually issue water rights in the head of the canyon without some proof that it will not affect legitimate users downstream.

I feel that the only people who will be monitored for water use will be the downstream irrigation users - simply because the State has access to our diversions and the majority of recreation users are behind locked gates. Every water right prior to 1974 was either earned by hard work or purchased for considerable amounts of money. I have put a lot of work, time and money into making my place in Argyle productive: sprinkler system at my own expense, culverts at my own expense, ditches at my own expense. To minimize the use of water, I intend to expand the system as soon as possible to the extent as possible.

I formally protest that the State arbitrarily issue water rights that could have a serious impact on my farm.

I have grown up in Argyle Canyon and spent a good deal of my adult life in the canyon. I've seen drought years and wet years and I've also seen the flow in Argyle Creek diminish in the last 20 years. I feel this has been created by recreation use in the head of the canyon. I was told when I was young and growing up in Argyle Canyon that "the canyon didn't give you anything, you had to earn it". I believe it was true then and I believe it still should be true now.

I hope there are more public meetings on water use in Argyle Canyon before any new proposals are put in effect.