

1595 West Hwy 56
Beryl, Utah 84714
September 13, 2007

Jerry Olds
Utah Division of Water Rights
P.O. Box 146300
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6300

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WATER RIGHTS
SALT LAKE

Dear Jerry Olds:

I am writing because of the Escalante Valley water issue. I have been studying about the water rights situation and have come to understand that the state wants to take back some water rights they gave to the people that live in the Escalante Valley area. I do not think this is the correct thing to do. You cannot just give someone a gift and then decide you think you deserve it more. If you really want it then you should give something back. In this situation you should pay people a fair amount for the water you take. It is the least you can do and it is the honest thing to do.

The reason I am particularly concerned with this situation is because of my family's and my life would be destroyed if the water was just taken. My family's situation is that of all the farmers in this area losing their farms, but also my family would be bankrupt. My family's farm is a family only business and if the water is taken, the farm will go out of business and we would be completely broke. The debt would sky rocket, so even if my parents found jobs, pretty much every cent earned would go to pay of the debt of the farm. Also, all of my relatives would need money so the whole extended family would have money troubles meaning we could not really help each other out.

I appreciate that you are trying to help with the water rights problem, but please be a little more concerned about the people that live where the water rights problem will affect them. Not all of us will be able to stay on our feet if the water is taken so please try to find some way to help us keep living happy lives in the future. If you finally decide to take the water, could you please not leave the people in this area with nothing? But thank you for all you have done about this problem and thank you for reading my letter.

Sincerely,



Kathryn Dover