

RESOLUTION

Members of the Escalante Valley Water Users Association (the "Association") have reviewed the State Engineer's proposal to develop a groundwater management plan ("Management Plan") for the Escalante Valley and have met to discuss the same. Based on a review of the relevant statute, review of the State Engineer's proposed plan of action, experience and understanding of the Escalante Valley, extensive deliberation and discussion among the Association's members, and action of the members, the Association determines the following:

A Management Plan must be based on a firm understanding that the State's existing allocation of water rights in the Escalante Valley forms the financial, occupational, social, and cultural underpinnings of communities in the Escalante Valley.

A Management Plan must be based on and reflect accurate information regarding economic and other impacts to individuals and local communities.

A Management Plan must be based on accurate science and hydrological data.

In a Management Plan for the Escalante Valley, the State must share responsibility for any existing over-allocation of water resources and share financial liability for resolution thereof.

Local stakeholders must have the first opportunity to develop a Management Plan for the Escalante Valley, as specified by Utah Code, section 75-5-15(4)(c).

A Management Plan must allow for gradual implementation, if necessary, as specified by Utah Code, section 75-5-15(4)(b).

WHEREFORE, the Escalante Valley Water Users Association RESOLVES to develop a groundwater management plan that reflects that the existing allocation of water rights forms a critical underpinning of communities in the Escalante Valley, that is based on and reflects accurate information regarding potential impacts, that is based on accurate science and hydrological data, that involves the State in resolution of the situation, and that involves stakeholders and allows for a proper period of implementation.

WHEREFORE, the Escalante Valley Water Users Association RESOLVES to deliver a copy of this Resolution to Governor Jon Huntsman, State Engineer Jerry Olds, President John Valentine, Speaker Greg Curtis, the Iron County and Washington County Commissioners and to solicit the assistance and cooperation of these leaders in the process of developing a groundwater management plan that protects resources, citizens and communities.

Signed this 26th day of April, 2007


By: Michael W. Brown, President