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May 28, 1999

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**WATER RIGHTS
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Robert L. Morgan, PE
State Engineer
Division of Water Rights
1594 West North Temple, Suite 220
Box 146300
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-6300

Subject: Comments to Proposed Salt Lake Valley Groundwater Management Plan

Dear Mr. Morgan:

We appreciate the opportunity to meet with your staff on March 25th to discuss the proposed draft of the Salt Lake Valley Groundwater Management Plan. This letter provides comments to the plan proposal. We would appreciate the opportunity to discuss these with you and your staff.

1.3 Groundwater Management Plan Objective

We agree with the objective of allowing for maximum utilization of the groundwater resource, within the constraint of protecting the groundwater resources of Salt Lake Valley. We have no desire to mine groundwater, nor to deteriorate its sustainable good quality. On the other hand, its utilization needs to be maximized before the Salt Lake County Water Conservancy District proceeds with much more expensive water projects, such as developing and importing Bear River water to Salt Lake Valley, and converting and demineralizing Utah Lake/Jordan River water for drinking water purposes.

Figure 1

We agree with the hydrologic divisions of the "eastern region", including lands east of the Jordan River; and of the "western region", including lands west of the Jordan River. The designation of the eastern subregion also seems appropriate.