

Comment of Proposed Ground Water Management Plan

To Teresa Wilhelmsen

And Nathan Moses

February 28, 2020

Water is a molecule created within the body of humans and animals, as well as by the combustion of hydrogen and compounds thereof.

Water and Carbon Dioxide are decomposed by plants, in the process of storing solar energy in hydrocarbon molecules like sugar and cellulose, thereby releasing oxygen.

Plants and animals rely on each other for their existence and water is an essential component for both. Life is not possible without it. Quality of life is directly connected to reasonable access to a sufficient quality and quantity of water.

As water is not created by any single individual or organization and it is required by all life to be able to live, it is a natural resource that all life holds in common and all life holds a common right to access and use for their personal needs, up to their share of the available water in their area and from the most convenient natural source. Recognizing and respect of this right is of paramount importance for quality of life. It is vitally important that individuals and collective organizations thereof protect this right from infringement first and foremost.

As quality of life is the purpose any water that is not being used should be available for beneficial use based on a priority basis. However any beneficial use rights in excess of an individual's share should be limited for a term sufficient to allow recovery of investment necessary to put said water to beneficial use and reap some benefits like patent rights otherwise it wont happen and water will be wasted. If however, the term is too long, then it effectively creates a format wherein the younger generations end up being born into a form of slavery as they are compelled to provide products or services in order to recover that which they have a common right to and that had not been properly protected. I would recommend that any excess of share use rights expire in 20-50 year terms.

When there is a shortage of water supply then share volume decreases and excess rights expire. At any time there is water available beyond individual share use and there is more demand than supply, excess term rights should be available to the highest bidders. As aquifers drop safe yield will increase and sourcing water will become more expensive. Less beneficial uses will naturally drop off.

As each drainage basin is unique and so are the people therein, and their considerations, the representatives of the people within each basin should be making the decisions about the water within their basin. The state an organization of basins should only be addressing issues between basins and other states.

R. Wayne LeBaron

RECEIVED

FEB 28 2020

WATER RIGHTS
CEDAR CITY

SCANNED