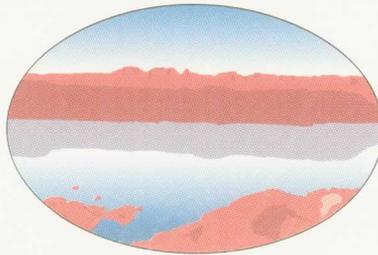


Ronald W. Thompson  
*General Manager*

Roberta McMullin  
*Secretary-Treasurer*

Barbara G. Hjelle  
*Assistant General Manager  
Counsel*



**WASHINGTON COUNTY**  
**WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT**

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October 1, 2007

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Mr. Jerry Olds  
Utah State Water Engineer  
1594 West N. Temple  
Suite 220  
Box 146300  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6300

Re: Escalante Valley Ground Water Management Plan

Dear Jerry:

I am concerned regarding the implementation of the ground water management plan for the Escalante Valley. Before a plan can be fully finished, it seems to me that additional information about the basin must be compiled.

As you know, Utah Code Ann. § 73-5-15 suggests that we need to know how much water is in the basin, how much the aquifer can be drawn down without unreasonably impairing the physical and chemical integrity of the aquifer and what are the economic impacts of the various scenarios. In addition, any program that intends to diminish water use for agriculture must address methods of avoiding the impacts on air quality from dust that would occur if the surface were denuded.

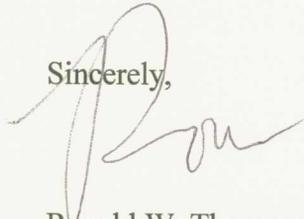
I also believe that to effectively implement a ground water management plan, you need the ability to create a local ground water management district.

Regarding solutions to the problem, I would suggest that we have the Special District Act amended to allow for the creation of a local ground water district. The Washington County Water Conservancy District would be willing to fund additional hydrological studies to

determine the extent of the ground water basin and the amount of draw down that could take place without unreasonably impairing the physical and chemical integrity of the basin.

The Water District generally supports the local based plan. We realize you need more data to adequately manage the basin. We are willing to assist in finding a win-win solution, but strongly believe we need to use sound science and rational economic policy. We oppose any solution which creates an undue economic hardship on the people in the Enterprise area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ron', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Ronald W. Thompson

RWT/rm