APPLICATION PROCESS

Water Rights

APPLICATION FILED
IN STATE OR REGIONAL OFFICE (DATA AVAILABLE ON *WEBSITE)

REGIONAL OFFICE **ADVERTISING DESIGNATION**

YES

ADVERTISE TWO WEEKS
20-DAY PROTEST PERIOD
PROOF OF PUBLICATION

NO

NO ADVERTISING REQUIRED.
SMALL DOMESTIC OR TEMPORARY FILINGS

HEARING REQUIRED?

YES

APPLICATION SECTION HOLDS A HEARING
WITH REGIONAL OFFICE & ALL OTHER PARTIES

NO

- FIELD INVESTIGATION
- POLICY REVIEW
- DATA COLLECTION
- TITLE REVIEW
- PROTEST REVIEW

REGIONAL OFFICE & APPLICATION SECTION **CONDUCT A REVIEW & RECOMMEND ACTION**

STATE ENGINEER DECISION

PARTIES ACCEPT **REJECTION**

APPLICATION CEASES

PARTIES ACCEPT **APPROVAL**

PARTIES DISAGREE

PARTIES HAVE **20 DAYS TO REQUEST RECONSIDERATION**

RECONSIDERATION **DENIED**

RECONSIDERATION **GRANTED**

REVIEW AMENDED DECISION

PARTIES ACCEPT **REJECTION**

APPLICATION CEASES

30 DAYS TO PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW

NO PETITION

PARTIES ACCEPT **DECISION**

REJECTION

APPLICATION CEASES

PETITION FILED

DISTRICT COURT HEARS APPEAL

PARTIES APPEAL

PARTIES ACCEPT **APPROVAL**

POSSIBLE APPEAL TO THE **UTAH SUPREME COURT**

RULING

POSSIBLE APPEAL

COURT DECISION

REJECTION

APPLICATION CEASES

APPROVAL

APPLICATION IS APPROVED

- EVERY APPROVAL REQUIRES PROOF OF BENEFICIAL USE BY A PROOF-DUE DEADLINE.
- THE PROOF OF BENEFICIAL USE DEADLINE IS TYPICALLY FIVE YEARS FROM THE APPROVAL DATE.

NOTICES OF PROOF

60 days before the proof-due date, the division gives notice to water rights owners, reminding them to submit proof of beneficial use

Proof submitted by professional engineer or land surveyor

Regional Office field review and corrections

Regional Office prepares a draft certificate

Application Section issues a certificate

Reconsideration and appeal process as described above

Continued beneficial use is required from applicant

Extension of time requested by the applicant

Regional Office and Application Section review and recommend action

Advertising of requests for extension of time over 14 years from application approval

Extension decision by the State Engineer

GRANTED

DENIED

Reconsideration and appeal process as described above

- APPLICATION
- EXTENSION OF TIME REQUEST
- CERTIFICATE OF BENEFICIAL USE
- PROOF
- APPROVAL OUTCOME
- REJECTION OUTCOME

*waterrights.utah.gov

Updated 10/15/2026