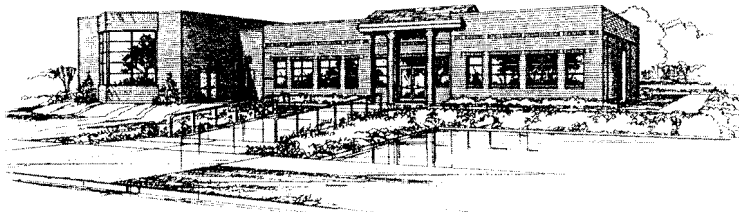


SOUTHEASTERN UTAH ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Joe Piccolo
CHAIRMAN

William D. Howell
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



375 SOUTH CARBON AVE.
P.O. DRAWER 1106
PRICE, UTAH 84501
(435) 637-5444
FAX (435) 637-5448

January 15, 2010

Marc Stilson, Regional Engineer
319 North Carbonville Road
P.O. Box 718
Price, Utah 84501

89-1285(a35402)
89-1513(a35402)
89-74(a35402)
89-462(a35874)

Mr. Stilson,

The Southeastern Utah Association of Local Governments Executive Board has reviewed the issues that have been thus far expressed with regard to the use of water from the Green River to supply the needs of a proposed nuclear power plant West of the City of Green River. The Board has also taken under advisement the commentary from those participating in the hearing held on January 12, 2010 in the City of Green River.

The Board recognizes that "environmental" organizations, some farmers in the area, some recreationalists, the federal Bureau of Reclamation and the federal Fish and Wildlife Service have expressed concerns over the proposed relocation of the point of diversion of 24,000 acre feet from the San Juan River in San Juan County to the Green River at or near the City of Green River for consumptive use by the proposed power plant.

Having considered the commentary and concerns expressed, the Board has concluded that none of the conjectured adverse effects of the proposed water diversion relocation, whether considered individually or cumulatively, are sufficient to warrant a denial of the application for relocation of San Juan County's point of diversion.

Accordingly, the Executive Board wishes to express to the Division its complete and unqualified support for San Juan County's application to change the point of diversion of its right to 24,000 acre feet of San Juan River water to the Green River at or near to the City of Green River.

Those who oppose industrial projects such as this Green River area project or others such as the Lila Canyon Coal Mine or the Kaiparowitz Plateau coal fields often refer to cumulative effects. In this vein, the Board suggests to the Division of Water Rights that, when reviewing San Juan County's application for change in its point of diversion, it consider the cumulative negative economic impacts of currently imposed federal environmental priorities and exclusions which represent economic burdens upon the State of Utah and its units of local government.

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2010

AREA AGENCY ON AGING • BUSINESS INCUBATION • COMMUNITY HOUSING REHABILITATION • COMMUNITY SERVICES • ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

[HTTP://WWW.SEUALG.UTAH.GOV](http://www.seualg.utah.gov)

• [firstinitiallastname@seualg.utah.gov](mailto:firstname.lastname@seualg.utah.gov)

PRICE WATER RIGHTS

- Some sixty seven percent of the State's land area is subject to the policies, priorities and legislative jurisdiction of the United States Congress and not to the priorities or will of the people of the State of Utah.
- Vast coal reserves on the Kaiparowitz Plateau have been rendered inaccessible.
- Existing oil and gas leases have been vacated due to their alleged proximity to specially protected areas.
- Local road systems have been closed.
- Vast expanses of the State have been rendered inaccessible as wilderness study areas or forest roadless areas.
- Our forests stand diseased, rotting and inaccessible to any industry that may put this resource to valuable use.

The Green River nuclear power plant presents an opportunity for the State of Utah to, in some measure, recover from costly burdens, such as those above, which have been set upon it in response to national and special interest priorities.

By approving San Juan County's application for change in point of diversion, the State of Utah has an opportunity to facilitate an industrial project that would result in economic benefits which would ripple throughout the State. The two thousand construction jobs and one thousand operations jobs which are expected to be associated with the project are needed in this State. Ad Valorem and sales taxes paid by the facility would be a boon to both the local and State tax bases including the statewide Uniform School Fund. This project would benefit millions of people, not only within the State of Utah but also beyond the State's border, who depend upon reliable and affordable electrical power. All of these positive benefits far outweigh the negligible effects on agriculture, recreation and wildlife which have been postulated.

Sincerely,



William D. Howell
Executive Director

RECEIVED
JAN 25 2010
PRICE WATER HOUSE