

February 15, 2007  
Salt Lake City Council  
451 South State Street Room 304  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84115  
Tel. 801-535-7600 Fax. 801-535-7651

RE: Big Ditch Irrigation Company water (3 Items):

Dear Salt Lake City Council members,

1-Winter contract water:

When the city water department needed our water, we were treated fairly and kindly. Today, when the city water department no longer needs our water, we are treated unfairly and unkindly.

We have greatly appreciated helping the city with its water needs over the years. Historically, the city has leased our winter contract water of about 180 acre-feet based on a 52 years of SLC flow record average, moved the point of diversion from the Big Cottonwood Mall to the Big Cottonwood Treatment Plant intake for use outside our service area. We would like to put this water to beneficial use. Would the city be interested in leasing our winter contract water again? If not, may we rent some surplus winter capacity in the Big Cottonwood Treatment Plant daily 40 MGD capacity? Today, the plant is running at about 14 MGD which leaves plenty of surplus capacity for our .4 MGD need. **If the city would extend this courtesy, it would be appreciated.** Please let us know. 1 MGD =3.069 acre-feet=1.547 cfs.

2-Toxic Utah Lake/Jordan River water quality:

We are concerned with the toxicity of Utah Lake/Jordan River water for domestic irrigation in light of this water being co-mingled with storm drain water with varying toxicity levels. Would it be possible to deliver us a quality of water greater or equal to Big Cottonwood Creek water for use in the ancient Bonneville Shoreline creeks along an historic Rocky Mountain Wilderness areas (Big Ditch)? There some environmentalist who would also appreciate this issue being addressed.

3-Hoarded, expiring water rights: City water department policies are at cross purposes.

**Hoarding, monopolizing, wasting and forfeiting water rights to protect watershed and monopoly is not a Salt Lake City pioneering mantra.** We would like to understand the philosophy underlying the policy and its implementation. Are any figures in Draft 8 SLC Water Dept inventory incorrect?

**The means and the ends are conflicted.** If the city requires watershed protection authority, then we'd be happy to give assistance for proper legislative authority to accomplish this end.

Perhaps there is a better method of protecting watershed than using water rights for non-water right purposes which is causing undue friction across all levels of government and undue costs.

Big Ditch

It appears that Salt Lake City Water Department owns **600,000+** Acre-Feet of Water Right &

**339,864** acre-feet of treatment capacity. (Draft-8 2007)

1-\*11,730 acre-feet average delivery City Creek–163 CFS–City Creek–Pleasant Valley–Pleasant Valley Reservoir–Memory Grove

2-\*18,995.8 average delivers Parleys Creek  
i) 7,940 acre-feet of Little Dell Res less 2,722 acre-feet exchanged in 1992 to SLC  
ii) plus remaining 23,700 from Parley’s Creek

3-\*53,460 acre-feet average delivery  
Big Cottonwood Creek. 2007 52,925.4 acre-feet Est. 99.8% owned/controlled by SLC Water Dept

4-\*43,898 acre-feet average delivery Little Cottonwood Creek

5-MWD Salt Lake&Sandy owns:  
i) 61,700 acre-feet of Deer Creek  
ii) 20,000 acre-feet of CUP Bonneville Unit Water  
iii) 2/7th interest in Jordan Valley Water Treat Plant  
iv) 2004 3,500 to 4,000 more acre-feet available from Little Cottonwood Creek “With the new structure, the District can utilize approximately 3,500–4,000 acre-feet of Little Cottonwood Creek water that would otherwise have gone unused. Page 24 2004 Annual Report Metro. Water District of Salt Lake & Sandy  
v) Shares 192.6-Big Ditch, 20.64-Lower Canal, 2-Sandy Irrigation (1,100 acre-feet)  
vi) MWD SLC & Sandy owns additional 100 CFS/7,500 acre-feet in Mill Creek 57-3283; 25,700 acre-feet in Parleys Creek 57-3282; 100 CFS/3,500 acre-feet in Emigration Creek 57-3288;  
vii) 3,000acre-feet Ontario Drain water  
viii) 50,000 acre-feet unapproved 1963 application 57-3288 Little Cottonwood Creek  
ix) 60,000 acre-feet unapproved 1963 application 57-3287 Big Cottonwood Creek  
x) Point of the Mountain Water Treatment plant

6-5 2/7th Water Treatment Plants

7-In 2003, the July 1, 2003/June 30 2003 Salt Lake City Water Stock Ledger indicated 55,567.473 water shares owned. Currently shows 15,514.723 water shares by excluding Forest Dale Water Company’s 39,241 water shares June 30,2006

**8-(On January 20, 1960 Salt Lake City’s Analysis showed 438.39 CFS or 317,304.49 acre-feet of Salt Lake City Well Rights) excluding all filings since 1960. 2004 Pumped 3,363.8**

9–14,600 acre-feet of Utah Lake Water  
10–Plus various additional filings since 1960–  
–Plus Mill Creek (\*11,137 acre-feet average delivery)  
–Plus Emigration (\*4,424 acre-feet average delivery)  
–Plus Spring Creek 10 CFS to.05 CFS  
–Plus Waste Water Reuse 76,000 acre-feet

SLC Water Rights Owned:  
-300,000+ acre-feet of well rights, drain rights, spring rights, etc.  
-150,000 acre-feet of surface rights in Big Cottonwood Creek, Little Cottonwood Creek, Mill Creek, City Creek, Emigration Creek, Parleys Creek  
-15,514.7 water shares which includes 24,500 acre-feet in Utah Lake  
-14,600 additional acre-feet Utah Lake  
-interest in MWD Salt Lake Sandy which owns 100,000 acre-feet plus 100,000 acre-feet of 1963 unapproved applications  
76,000 acre-feet of sewer treatment plant re-use approved applications

**2005-SLC used 47,574 acre-feet** & 23,723 AF for 31,231 non-city connections \$+21.2%

Water banking applications (non-use) reaching 50 year rule which means “banked” water held in reserve by the state for SLC has run to waste and evaporated from the Great Salt Lake, Utah Lake, etc. for 50 years.

City Creek Treatment Plant	15 MGD
Parley’s Treatment Plant	40 MGD
Big Cottonwood TP	40 MGD
Little Cottonwood TP	71.4% 150 107 MGD
Point of Mountain TP	71.4% 70 50 MGD
JVWTP	28.6% 180 MGD 51.4 MGD
Total capacity: 303.4 Million Gallons per Day, 931.15 acre-feet per day, or 339,864 acre-feet/ year <b>47,574 acre-feet =15.5 MGD</b>	

\*Data from Salt Lake City flow records, Div Water, Treatment Plants.

-17,086.73 acre-feet of Tunnel water Spiro Tunnel  
–493.85 acre-feet of Spring water  
–Telcott Canyon 4 CFS abandoned SnakeCreek Duchesne  
–Constitutional issue of city non-inhabitant water  
+Water Sales Contracts: SLC only 1 of Utah’s 129 cities and 8 towns with non-inhabitant, non-contiguous connections selling water?

+**Utah Constitution:** Article XI, Sec.6“No municipal corporation, shall directly or indirectly, lease, sell, alien or dispose of any waterworks, water rights, or sources of water supply now, or hereafter to be owned or controlled by it; but all such waterworks, water rights and sources of water supply now owned or hereafter to be acquired by any municipal corporation, shall be preserved, maintained and operated by it for supplying its inhabitants with water at reasonable charges.”