

Victor Iverson, St. George, UT.

To whom it may concern,

As a Washington County Commissioner, it is my duty to do what is best for our county today and in the future. I strive to make well-informed decisions on matters impacting our region with future generations in mind. Because water supply is one of the most important components of our community's longevity and well-being, I have publicly declared my support for the Lake Powell Pipeline.

As my fellow commissioners and I stated in the April 2, 2018 St. George News letter to the editor, "Water is the 'lubricant' of life and our economy. More than ever before in our state's history, Utah needs to lay claim to its share of water that falls on Utah's mountains and valleys."

St. George and the neighboring communities rely on a sole water source, the Virgin River basin. This single source has been historically unstable. With the Lake Powell Pipeline, we have the opportunity to bring online a second, more reliable water source ensuring the safety of our supply. Having redundancy in our water system is simply a wise measure.

A responsible, multi-faceted plan for progress is the key to the future of our community. We have implemented a comprehensive approach to water that includes conservation, reuse, tiered water rates and the development of new water resources such as the Lake Powell Pipeline.

Over the past twenty years, our county has grown tremendously. In fact, we are the fastest growing region in the nation. Additionally, we have been voted one of the best cities in the nation to start a business. Most communities aspire for these recognitions; halting this progress would diminish our economy and the spirit of our community. One only needs to look at Rust Belt cities like Buffalo, Detroit and Pittsburgh to see what happens when there is no growth. It takes generations to rebound. Instead, I believe we can and should do all we can to grow sustainably and ensure this same quality of life for our children and grandchildren.

Again, as we stated in our April 2, 2018 letter to the editor: "The time is now to face forward with enthusiasm and pride for the community we've built and created to offer something of great value to all of our residents. We must continue to responsibly plan for our future. The Lake Powell Pipeline, like the other great water projects of the past, will play an integral role in keeping Washington County and the St. George metro area an inviting respite in an amazing place to live, work, raise a family or retire."

Sincerely,

Commissioner Victor Iverson
Washington County Commissioner