

WEBER BASIN WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

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August 20, 2020

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Mr. Rick Baxter
Lake Powell Pipeline Project Bureau of Reclamation
302 East Lakeview Parkway
Provo, Utah 84606

Dear Mr. Baxter,

Thank you for the good work and diligence of the Provo Area Office staff in managing this and many other important federal processes and infrastructure. As a fellow regional water supplier in Utah, Weber Basin Water Conservancy District hereby submits the following comments regarding the Lake Powell Pipeline (LPP) draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Utah has the distinction as being one of the most rapidly growing states in the Union. Our state also boasts one of the most relatively robust economies. These two labels are not accomplished without the realization of a reliable, high quality water supply. It is also notable that the water being used to fuel our state economy today is that which was conceived and constructed decades ago. Any expectation of future generations that they too will have a water supply at the places and times it is needed depends upon current responsible and assertive planning. Recognizing that water in Utah is a finite natural resource, long range planning and construction of these types of projects will be the only method by which future generations will have a critical supply.

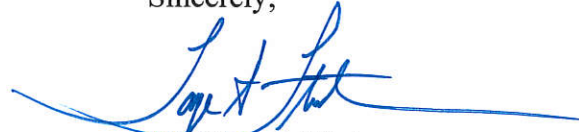
As a regional water supplier in northern Utah, we appreciate the effort, time, and expense that has gone into developing the LPP draft EIS. The document exhibits the careful path needed to minimize and mitigate impacts of the project while providing a means by which Utah may use its rightful allocation of Colorado River water. Water that has to date flowed to lower basin states and consumed. Utah's claims to its Colorado River rights remain in jeopardy until the time comes when it is diverted and utilized within the state. The fact that population growth in southwest Utah has occurred at a later date than those of other states is irrelevant to fact that the LPP will put to use Utah's rightful allocation.

The LPP has the potential to fuel the economy of southwest Utah by providing the one resource that is imperative to all thriving communities in the West. Reliable water projects have long brought jobs and revenue to a community with incredible returns on investment. In each case where a water project in our state was successfully constructed and mitigated, the local economy has thrived. This, even

when most seemed expensive at the time of construction. LPP will be categorized likewise in the analysis years from now.

We encourage the Bureau of Reclamation to recognize the need for future economic viability of the state and recognize the ability of Utahns to beneficially use their water rights by issuing a Record of Decision in favor of the proposed LPP.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tage I. Flint", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr. Tage I. Flint
General Manager/CEO

TIF/bb