

October 23, 2020

Mr. Rick Baxter, Program Manager  
Bureau of Reclamation, Provo Area Office  
302 East Lakeview Parkway  
Provo, UT 84606

Mr. Baxter:

In 1976, Intermountain Healthcare purchased a new 65-bed hospital in St. George, Utah, to serve its approximately 20,000 residents. Projections indicated the new hospital would meet the needs of the community until 2020.

Since 1976, Washington County's population has increased approximately 800%. Intermountain Healthcare has completed a series of expansions over the decades, investing millions to provide a growing community needed medical services.

In 2018, we completed a \$300 million expansion that added 500,000 square feet to the hospital including a new cancer center which is home for Intermountain Healthcare's Precision Genomics program, that serves patients from around the globe. We are now a 284-bed hospital, employing nearly 3,000 caregivers in the St. George area.

Intermountain Healthcare has grown with this region, which consistently exceeds growth projections. We are grateful for local planners who have developed the needed resources to sustain our growing population and allowed us to do our job.

Hospitals, by nature, are high water users. Intermountain Healthcare is dependent on water from the Washington County Water Conservancy District to serve our patients. Efforts to expand and diversify the local water portfolio are supported by the hospital. We consider the Lake Powell Pipeline essential to meet the future needs of our community and request the Bureau of Reclamation approve the preferred pipeline alternative so this project may move forward. The health and safety of our residents depend on access to clean, reliable water sources.

Sincerely,



Mitch Cloward, Administrator  
Intermountain Dixie Regional Medical Center