

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION DOCUMENT

SALT LAKE VALLEY AQUIFER CLASSIFICATION

Prepared by

Utah Department of Environmental Quality
Division of Water Quality
Ground Water Protection Section

Petitioned to the Utah Water Quality Board by

White City Water Improvement District

October 4, 2008

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SECTION 1

Board Memo Requesting Public Hearing



State of Utah

Department of
Environmental Quality

Richard W. Sprott
Executive Director

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
Walter L. Baker, P.E.
Director

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.
Governor

GARY HERBERT
Lieutenant Governor

MEMORANDUM

TO: Water Quality Board

THROUGH: Walt Baker, Executive Secretary 

FROM: Ed Hickey, Environmental Scientist, Ground Water Protection Section  

DATE: August 1, 2008

SUBJECT: Request for Authorization to Conduct Public Hearing for an Aquifer Classification Petition for the Basin-Fill Aquifer, Salt Lake County

In accordance with provisions of R317-6-5, The White City Water Improvement District (WCWID) has requested to submit a petition to the Utah Water Quality Board to classify the ground water in the basin-fill aquifer in Salt Lake County, Utah. Attached is a copy of the petition request letter from Paulina Flint, Chair of the WCWID Board of Trustees, on behalf of WCWID and four other Salt Lake County water providers. The petition was prepared for WCWID by the Utah Geological Survey and was based on ground water quality data collected by the Utah Geological Survey, the USGS, and others. Technical review and comment on the draft aquifer classification report and maps were provided by staff of the Division of Water Quality Ground Water Protection Section.

Based on ground water quality data, it is requested that 19% of the aquifer be classified as Class IA Pristine Ground Water, 62% be classified as Class II Drinking Water Quality Ground Water, 7% be classified as Class III Limited Use Ground Water, and the remaining 12% be classified as Class IV Saline Ground Water. Plate 1 from the petition shows the location of these ground water classification areas in Salt Lake County (attached).

A copy of the applicable portion of R317-6-5, "Ground Water Classification for Aquifers", is included on page 3 for your reference. This rule allows the Board to classify entire aquifers or parts of aquifers according to the quality of the ground water contained therein. Boundaries for the class areas are to be delineated and based on hydrogeologic properties and existing ground water quality. Parts of the same aquifer may be classified differently. When considering an aquifer classification petition, the Board should be aware of the following applications and limitations.

Aquifer Classification is:

1. In the absence of other more site-specific data, a predetermined basis for establishing protection levels and best available control technology in the issuance of ground water discharge permits by the Division of Water Quality.
2. A common ground water quality management objective to be maintained when used as a land use management tool by local agencies.
3. A consolidation of knowledge about a given hydrologic setting from a number of scientific and technical sources.
4. A formal administrative prioritization of the ground water resource.

Aquifer Classification is NOT:

1. A mandatory requirement to take specific action on the part of local government including application of any land use zoning restrictions.
2. An obligation by local government to perform technical assessments, monitoring or ongoing financial investments.
3. A restriction on existing land use or future land use not already allowed or prohibited by state law.
4. An assumption of the state responsibility to enforce or enact county or local ordinances on waste management practices.

Any person may petition the Board for an aquifer classification if sufficient data are provided as required in the referenced rule. The staff has reviewed the petition and supporting information and has determined that the criteria have been met. Therefore, it is recommended that the Board initiate action for aquifer classification. With the Board's approval, the Division of Water Quality will set a date for conducting a public hearing in the county and issue the required public notice. After holding the public hearing and consideration of any comments that are received, information will be returned to the Board for the disposition of the classification petition.

R317-6-5. Ground Water Classification for Aquifers.

5.1 GENERAL

- A. When sufficient information is available, entire aquifers or parts thereof may be classified by the Board according to the quality of ground water contained therein and commensurate protection levels will be applied.
- B. Ground water sources furnishing water to community drinking water systems with ground water meeting Class IA criteria are classified as Class IA.

5.2 CLASSIFICATION AND RECLASSIFICATION PROCEDURE

- A. The Board may initiate classification or reclassification.
- B. Any person may petition the Board for classification and reclassification.
- C. Boundaries for class areas will be delineated so as to enclose distinct ground water classes as nearly as known facts permit. Boundaries will be based on hydrogeologic properties, existing ground water quality and for Class IB and IC, current use. Parts of an aquifer may be classified differently.
- D. The petitioner requesting reclassification will provide sufficient information to determine if reclassification is in the best interest of the beneficial users.
- E. A petition for classification or reclassification shall include:
 - 1. factual data supporting the proposed classification;
 - 2. a description of the proposed ground waters to be classified or reclassified;
 - 3. potential contamination sources;
 - 4. ground water flow direction;
 - 5. current beneficial uses of the ground water; and
 - 6. location of all water wells in the area to be classified or reclassified.
- F. One or more public hearings will be held to receive comment on classification and reclassification proposals.
- G. The Board will determine the disposition of all petitions for classification and reclassification, except as provided in R317-6-5.2.H.
- H. Ground water proximate to a facility for which an application for a ground water discharge permit has been made may be classified by the Executive Secretary for purposes of making permitting decisions.

SECTION 2

**Public Hearing Notice, Affidavit of Publication,
and Stakeholder Post Cards**

**Division of Water Quality
Utah Department of Environmental Quality**

**Notice of Public Hearing
For a Proposed
Ground Water Classification of the Principal Basin-Fill Aquifer
in the Salt Lake Valley**

The purpose of this notice is to announce the State of Utah's intention to conduct a public hearing to receive public comment on the proposed aquifer classification in the Salt Lake Valley, Salt Lake County, UT. The hearing will begin at 6:30 P.M. on Monday, September 8, 2008 at

SANDY CITY HALL
Multipurpose Room
10000 Centennial Parkway
Sandy, Utah

The White City Water Improvement District, on behalf of itself and four other Salt Lake County water providers, has petitioned the Utah Water Quality Board in accordance with UAC R317-6-5 to classify ground water in the Principal Basin-Fill Aquifer in the Salt Lake Valley, Salt Lake County as Class IA through Class IV. Aquifer classifications are intended as a planning tool for local government agencies to protect ground water quality and do not mandate any specific actions for governmental planning. Documentation supporting the petition may be examined, or copies obtained by contacting Ed Hickey at the Utah Division of Water Quality, 288 N. 1460 W., P.O. Box 144870, Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4870, (801) 538-6146. Written comments may be submitted at the hearing, or by mail until 6:00 P.M. on Monday, September 29, 2008. If mailed, comments should be addressed to: Ed Hickey, Utah Division of Water Quality, P.O. Box 144870, Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4870

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with special needs (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) should contact Jennifer Burge, Office of Human Resources at (801) 536-4413 (TDD 536-4414).

4770 S. 5600 W.
 P.O. BOX 704005
 WEST VALLEY CITY, UTAH 84110
 FED.TAX I.D.# 87-0217663

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

CUSTOMER'S COPY

CUSTOMER NAME AND ADDRESS	ACCOUNT NUMBER	DATE
DIV OF WATER QUALITY, ATTN.: Brianna Ariotti PO BOX 144870 SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84114	9001365712	08/26/2008

SEP 03 2008

ACCOUNT NAME			
DIV OF WATER QUALITY,			
TELEPHONE	ADORDER# / INVOICE NUMBER		
8015386146	0000347960 /		
SCHEDULE			
Start 08/25/2008		End 08/25/2008	
CUST. REF NO.			
CAPTION			
Division of Water Quality Utah Departmen			
SIZE			
45	Lines	2.00	COLUMN
TIMES	RATE		
4			
MISC. CHARGES	AD CHARGES		
TOTAL COST			
156.20			

Division of Water Quality
 Utah Department of Environmental Quality
 Notice of Public Hearing
 For a Proposed
 Ground Water Classification of the Principal
 Basin-Fill Aquifer
 in the Salt Lake Valley

The purpose of this notice is to announce the State of Utah's intention to conduct a public hearing to receive public comment on the proposed aquifer classification in the Salt Lake Valley, Salt Lake County, UT. The hearing will begin at 6:30 P.M. on Monday, September 8, 2008 at

SANDY CITY HALL
 Multipurpose Room
 10000 Centennial Parkway
 Sandy, Utah

The White City Water Improvement District, on behalf of itself and four other Salt Lake County water providers, has petitioned the Utah Water Quality Board in accordance with UAC R317-6-5 to classify ground water in the Principal Basin-Fill Aquifer in the Salt Lake Valley, Salt Lake County as Class IA through Class IV. Aquifer classifications are intended as a planning tool for local government agencies to protect ground water quality and do not mandate any specific actions for governmental planning. Documentation supporting the petition may be examined, or copies obtained by contacting Ed Hickey at the Utah Division of Water Quality, 288 N. 1460 W., P.O. Box 144870, Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4870, 801-538-6146. Written comments may be submitted at the hearing, or by mail until 6:00 P.M. on Monday, September 29, 2008. If mailed, comments should be addressed to: Ed Hickey, Utah Division of Water Quality, P.O. Box 144870, Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4870.

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AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

AS NEWSPAPER AGENCY CORPORATION LEGAL BOOKER, I CERTIFY THAT THE ATTACHED ADVERTISEMENT OF Division of Water Quality Utah Departmen FOR DIV OF WATER QUALITY, WAS PUBLISHED BY THE NEWSPAPER AGENCY CORPORATION. AGENT FOR THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE AND DESERET NEWS. DAILY NEWSPAPERS PRINTED IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE WITH GENERAL CIRCULATION IN UTAH, AND PUBLISHED IN SALT LAKE CITY, SALT LAKE COUNTY IN THE STATE OF UTAH.

PUBLISHED ON Start 08/25/2008 End 08/25/2008
 SIGNATURE *Amy Grant*
 DATE 08/26/2008

THIS IS NOT A STATEMENT BUT A "PROOF OF PUBLICATION"
 PLEASE PAY FROM BILLING STATEMENT

1000 480 7759 NAF 10131 761.08 SC 9/2/08



Notice of Public Hearing for a Proposed Ground Water Classification for the Principal Basin-Fill Aquifer of Salt Lake Valley, Salt Lake County

The Utah Division of Water Quality will hold a public hearing at 6:30 PM on Monday September 8, 2008 at the Sandy City Hall Multipurpose Room at 10000 Centennial Parkway to receive comments on an aquifer classification petition for the principal basin-fill aquifer of Salt Lake Valley. The White City Water Improvement District submitted a petition to classify the ground water quality of the basin-fill aquifer in Salt Lake County and the Division of Water Quality has determined that the petition meets the criteria of UAC R317-6-5 and is in the best interest of the beneficial users. Aquifer classifications are intended as a planning tool for local governmental agencies to protect ground water quality and do not mandate any specific actions for governmental planning or zoning organizations. The aquifer classification petition is available on the Internet at

<http://www.waterquality.utah.gov/GroundWater/aquifermap.htm>

or by contacting Brianna Ariotti at (801) 538-7066. Written comments should be addressed to: Ed Hickey, Utah Division of Water Quality, P.O. Box 144870, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84114-4870 or sent via facsimile to (801) 538-6016.



Notice of Public Hearing for a Proposed Ground Water Classification for the Principal Basin-Fill Aquifer of Salt Lake Valley, Salt Lake County

The Utah Division of Water Quality will hold a public hearing at 6:30 PM on Monday September 8, 2008 at the Sandy City Hall Multipurpose Room at 10000 Centennial Parkway to receive comments on an aquifer classification petition for the principal basin-fill aquifer of Salt Lake Valley. The White City Water Improvement District submitted a petition to classify the ground water quality of the basin-fill aquifer in Salt Lake County and the Division of Water Quality has determined that the petition meets the criteria of UAC R317-6-5 and is in the best interest of the beneficial users. Aquifer classifications are intended as a planning tool for local governmental agencies to protect ground water quality and do not mandate any specific actions for governmental planning or zoning organizations. The aquifer classification petition is available on the Internet at

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or by contacting Brianna Ariotti at (801) 538-7066. Written comments should be addressed to: Ed Hickey, Utah Division of Water Quality, P.O. Box 144870, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84114-4870 or sent via facsimile to (801) 538-6016.



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or by contacting Brianna Ariotti at (801) 538-7066. Written comments should be addressed to: Ed Hickey, Utah Division of Water Quality, P.O. Box 144870, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84114-4870 or sent via facsimile to (801) 538-6016.



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<http://www.waterquality.utah.gov/GroundWater/aquifermap.htm>

or by contacting Brianna Ariotti at (801) 538-7066. Written comments should be addressed to: Ed Hickey, Utah Division of Water Quality, P.O. Box 144870, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84114-4870 or sent via facsimile to (801) 538-6016.

SECTION 3

Public Hearing Agenda

**PUBLIC HEARING
PRINCIPLE BASIN-FILL AQUIFER CLASSIFICATION
SALT LAKE VALLEY, SALT LAKE COUNTY, UTAH**

**6:30 P.M.
Monday September 8, 2008
Sandy City Hall Multipurpose Room**

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introduction – Leah Ann Lamb, Division of Water Quality Assistant Director
2. Hearing Officer Statement – Leah Ann Lamb, Division of Water Quality Hearing Officer
3. Staff Statement – Ed Hickey, Environmental Scientist, Division of Water Quality
4. Petitioner Statement – Paulina Flint, White City Water Improvement District
5. Aquifer Classification Presentation, Janae Wallace, Utah Geological Survey
6. Informal Question and Answer Session
7. Receipt of Public Comments
8. Close of Public Hearing

Hand-Outs Available at the Public Hearing

- Public Notice
- Hearing Officer Statement
- Staff Statement
- Aquifer Classification Fact Sheet
- Salt Lake Valley Principle Basin-Fill Aquifer Classification Map

State of Utah Public Hearing Staff

Utah Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Quality: (801) 538-6146

- Leah Ann Lamb, Assistant Director
- Rob Herbert, Ground Water Protection Section Manager
- Ed Hickey, Environmental Scientist, Ground Water Protection Section
- Bill Damery, Environmental Scientist, Ground Water Protection Section
- Brianna Ariotti, Environmental Scientist, Ground Water Protection Section

Utah Department of Natural Resources, Geological Survey: (801) 537-3300

- Mike Lowe, Geological Program Manager, Environmental Sciences
- Janae Wallace, Geologist, Environmental Sciences

SECTION 4

Public Hearing Sign-In Sheets

SIGN IN SHEET

NAME & ORGANIZATION	Do you have a question or comment for the FORMAL portion of the public hearing?	If you wish to receive written response to public comments, please provide the information below:	
		ADDRESS	EMAIL
JESSE MILLEN-JOHNSON SALT LAKE VALLEY HEACTA			JMJOHNSON@SLCO.ORG
Shane Pace Sandy City.			space@sandy.utah.gov
Chris Mikell			cmikell@bowencollins.com
Northa M. Robinson White City Water Dist			
Mike Lowe & Janay Wallace	Utah Geobotany SURUS		.
ED HICKEY UTAH DIV. WATER QUALITY			ehickey@utah.gov
Randy Williams SLUHD			
Rob Herbert DWQ			
Paul H Ashton WCWID			phashton@wcid.org

SECTION 5

Public Hearing Officer Statement

Utah Department of Environmental Quality
Division of Water Quality
Leah Ann Lamb
801-538-6057

HEARING OFFICER STATEMENT
FOR PUBLIC HEARING

Petition for the Salt Lake Valley Principal Basin-Fill Aquifer Classification

Monday September 8, 2008
6:30 P.M.

Sandy City Hall Multipurpose Room
10000 Centennial Parkway
Sandy, Utah

Ladies and Gentlemen, we call this hearing to order. My name is Leah Ann Lamb and I am the Assistant Director of the Utah Division of Water Quality. Sitting next to me is Ed Hickey, an Environmental Scientist with the Ground Water Protection Section. For this hearing tonight, I am representing the Utah Water Quality Board as the hearing officer.

This public hearing is convened under the authority of R317-6-5.2F of the Utah Ground Water Protection Rules to receive public comment on the petition to classify the principal basin-fill aquifer in Salt Lake Valley. Based on a staff recommendation, a preliminary determination has been made by the Executive Secretary of the Utah Water Quality Board that the draft aquifer classification is in the best interest of the beneficial users.

A public notice announcing this public hearing was published in The Salt Lake Tribune and the Deseret News on August 25, 2008. As stated in the public notice, documentation supporting the petition is available for review and copies can be obtained upon request by contacting Ed Hickey at the Division of Water Quality at (801) 538-6146. The petition is also available on the Division of Water Quality website at www.waterquality.utah.gov/.

Anyone who wants to give oral comments for the record should please sign the form provided at the door. Oral comments are being recorded and a transcript will be available for public review from the Division of Water Quality. For those wishing to mail written comments, copies of the Public Notice are available at the sign-in table and contain the information you need to submit written comments. Written comments received no later than 6:00 P.M. on Monday September 29, 2008 will be accepted for the record.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive public comments and as such there will be no attempt by us to address your comments in this forum tonight. At the conclusion of the 30-day public comment period on September 29th, we will review all comments and determine if they are substantive to cause a change in the proposed classification.

Prior to receiving oral comments, a staff statement regarding the classification will be given by Ed Hickey, followed by a technical presentation and question and answer session on the Classification Petition by Janae Wallace of the Utah Geological Survey.

[STAFF STATEMENT BY ED HICKEY, DWQ]

[TECHNICAL PRESENTATION BY JANAE WALLACE, UGS
WITH INFORMAL Q & A SESSION]

If there are no more questions, we will now receive public comments. Please state your name and whether you are a citizen or representative of an organization before making your comments. I remind you that there will be no question and answer session during the receipt of public comments and your comments will not be addressed tonight.

[DURATION OF PUBLIC HEARING]

If there are no more comments, this hearing will be considered closed. Any additional written comments will be received until 6:00 P.M. Monday September 29, 2008.

Adjourned at _____ P.M., September 8, 2008.

SECTION 6

Public Hearing Staff Statement

Utah Department of Environmental Quality
Division of Water Quality
Ground Water Protection Section
Ed Hickey
801-538-9170

STAFF STATEMENT FOR PUBLIC HEARING

Petition for the Salt lake Valley Principal Basin-Fill Aquifer Classification

Monday September 8, 2008
6:30 P.M.

Sandy City Hall Multipurpose Room
10000 Centennial Parkway
Sandy, Utah

Good evening. I am Ed Hickey from the Division of Water Quality Ground Water Protection Section.

The State of Utah administers programs to protect ground water under the legal authority of the Water Quality Act and the Administrative Rules for Ground Water Quality Protection (R317-6), which were promulgated under the Act. These Rules define ground water classes based on existing ground water quality, establish allowable levels of contaminants based on ground water class, and define procedures for formal classification of aquifers. Copies of these Rules are available on the Division of Water Quality website at: www.waterquality.utah.gov/.

The Rules define four ground water classes based primarily on Total Dissolved Solids content. Ground water classes are protected based on their potential beneficial uses and these ground water classes are defined as follows:

<u>Class</u>	<u>TDS</u>	<u>Beneficial Use</u>
Class IA and IB	0 to 500 mg/l	Pristine and Irreplaceable
Class II	500 to 3,000 mg/l	Drinking Water Quality
Class III	3,000 to 10,000 mg/l	Limited Use
Class IV	greater than 10,000 mg/l	Saline

Section R317-6-5 of the Rules defines procedures for a formal classification of ground water quality in any particular aquifer. Any person may petition the Water Quality Board for classification of an aquifer.

According to the Rules, the petition must include the following information:

1. Factual data supporting the proposed classification;
2. A description of the proposed ground waters to be classified or reclassified;
3. Potential contamination sources;
4. Ground water flow direction;
5. Current beneficial uses of the ground water; and
6. Location of all water wells in the area to be classified or reclassified.

A public hearing must be held to receive comment on any proposed classification. At the August 7th 2008 Water Quality Board meeting, a Petition for Classification of the Principal Basin-Fill Aquifer of Salt Lake Valley was presented to the Water Quality Board by the White City Water Improvement District. Based on a technical review by the Ground Water Protection staff, the Petition was determined to be complete and the Board authorized the staff to conduct this public hearing.

Ground water classifications are intended to be used as a planning tool by local governmental agencies. Ground water classifications do not mandate any specific actions for local planning and zoning, nor obligate local government to perform any technical assessments or monitoring, nor restrict existing or future land use.

The Petition for Classification was prepared by Janae Wallace and Mike Lowe of the Utah Geological Survey, who will now give a presentation on the proposed aquifer classification for Salt Lake Valley. This information is included in the Petition. An informal question and answer session will follow the presentation.

After the informal question and answer session, public comments from the audience will be received and recorded. Written responses will be prepared for all comments received during this hearing and throughout the entire public comment period, which ends on September 29, 2008. A public participation document with all comments and DWQ responses will be available upon request and will be posted on the DWQ website at: www.waterquality.utah.gov/.

SECTION 7

Petitioner Statement

Petitioner Statement
Paulina F. Flint, White City Water Improvement District

My name is Paulina Flint and I am the chair of the Board of Trustees for the White City Water Improvement District. We were down in St. George a little over two years ago and ran into Mike Lowe in a class that he was teaching at a water conference. There were very few people in that room and the first thing I did was ask him for his information on a disk because we were so excited because it was the very thing we needed to help educate our public as to ground water issues and concerns. Most of the time when we talk about environmental issues and being concerned about the environment, its about everything you see above ground, and ground water has been relegated to the second floor in the basement below the basement. Even at the national level when I've asked questions of presenters at the multi-state working group from the federal EPA, they said good luck on getting source protection for ground water elevated to a higher status because they mostly focus on surface waters when it comes to contamination. So everywhere I've gone every comment that has come back to me, whether it be in Milwaukee or St. George or Park City, by all of the people that are in the know and regulating us they say good luck. So I feel very fortunate for our group of petitioners. White City petitioned on behalf of Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District, Holladay Water, Salt Lake City Water, White City Water, and Sandy City. Sandy City was one of the first ones to establish along the Salt Lake City a source protection ordinance back in the mid 1990s. In fact Chris Michael, who is here tonight, used to be with CH2M Hill and is with Bowen and Collins now, was the person that inspired me to proceed with looking more at ground water protection and source protection. I sat in on his first presentations with Jordan Valley for the point source and wellhead protection plan when he first laid out his nine-foot map and said here it is, everybody agree or disagree. So I was there in the very beginning of that and we've worked very hard as unincorporated areas of Salt Lake County to try and get Salt Lake County to pass a source protection ordinance, and Randy Williams knows all about that one also. So we're talking or preaching to the choir here but is a very exciting time that now we have something in front of us that enables us to go out and educate the public with something that any layperson can see with the visual aids [classification maps]. I've made copies of this presentation since it's been available and passed it out to all the unincorporated community councils of Salt Lake Valley so that they can have an understanding of what was coming and I guess they liked it, otherwise they would be here to protest. I also spent some quality time up in Emigration Canyon for their Fire Days for their presentations and meeting with Homeowners Associations over the last three years trying to get them to understand the impact of downstream users and having issues with septic tanks and things like that. And I guess for the first time in history I don't see them protesting here tonight either. We really appreciate the State spending the time, effort, and money on helping us do this and I know they contributed a wealth of information and dollars to this project. And I want to thank Janae Wallace and Mike Lowe for being involved in this project and seeing this through for us. I hope it passes, if 30 days pass and no protests and we can proceed to utilize this. I've even spoken with the County Health Department Director, with Source Protection over source protection issues and asked them if it might not be possible to attach this to the Ground Water Protection Ordinance that we are in the process of finishing up. Thank you.

SECTION 8

Public Comments

No written comments were received during the public comment period and no verbal comments were received during the public hearing. However, the following public comment was received by telephone during the public comment period.

Pat Corey, Water Watch of Utah

Mr. Corey spoke with Ed Hickey by telephone and stated that he supports the aquifer classification. Water Watch of Utah is a voluntary grassroots coalition concerned with the quality and quantity of Utah's water supplies.

SECTION 9

Aquifer Classification Fact Sheet



State of Utah

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.
Governor

GARY HERBERT
Lieutenant Governor

Department of Environmental Quality

Richard W. Sprott
Executive Director

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
Walter L. Baker, P.E.
Director

Water Quality Board
Joe Piccolo, *Chair*
Paula Doughty, *Vice-Chair*
David F. Echols
Merritt K. Frey
Darrell H. Mensel
Leland J. Myers
Richard W. Sprott
Jay Ivan Olsen
Gregory L. Rowley
Steven P. Simpson
Daniel C. Snarr
Phil Wright
Walter L. Baker,
Executive Secretary

Aquifer Classification Fact Sheet

When sufficient information is available, entire aquifers or parts of aquifers may be classified or reclassified by the Utah Water Quality Board upon request by submitting a classification petition.

Petition Requirements

Any person may petition the Water Quality Board for classification of an aquifer, and the petition must include the following information:

- Factual data supporting the proposed classification;
- A description of the proposed ground waters to be classified or reclassified;
- Potential contamination sources;
- Ground water flow direction;
- Current beneficial uses; and
- Location of all water wells in the area to be classified or reclassified.

A petition for classification or reclassification must be performed under the direction of, and bear the seal of a Utah-licensed professional engineer or professional geologist.

Ground Water Classes

In general, ground water quality classes are defined by the total dissolved solids (TDS) content. Parts of an aquifer may be classified differently and boundaries between different ground water class areas will be based on hydrogeologic properties and ground water quality data.

Below are the five types of ground water quality classes:

Class	TDS (milligrams/liter)
IA Pristine	<500
IB Irreplaceable	<500
II Drinking Water	500-3,000
III Limited Use	3,000-10,000
IV Saline	>10,000

Public Comment

After a technical review of the petition has been conducted by Division of Water Quality staff, one or more public hearings will be held to receive comment on classification and reclassification proposals. Written comments are also solicited during the 30-day public comment period.

Planning Tool

Ground water classifications are intended to be used as a planning tool by local governmental agencies to protect ground water quality. Classifications do not mandate any specific actions for local planning and zoning, nor obligate local governments to perform any technical assessments or monitoring, nor restrict existing or future land use. For a summary of aquifers that have been classified by the Board, please refer to the "Classified Aquifers" tab on the Ground Water Protection webpage at the internet address below.

<http://www.waterquality.utah.gov/GroundWater/index.htm>