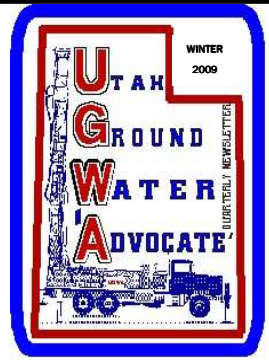


# UTAH GROUND WATER ADVOCATE

WINTER 2009 EDITION



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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR DEIDRE BECK, PG, STANTEC

It is hard to believe that another year has come and gone already. The holidays are nearly here and the annual Mesquite Convention is just around the corner. As usual it will be held the second Thursday and Friday of January, the 14th and 15th, 2010. As posted in the last newsletter, the convention will be at the Casa Blanca Resort and many people have been working very hard to ensure that it is again a success as in past years. Thanks should go out to Colette and Layne Read for all they have done this year to organize the annual convention. Please remember that early registration ends December 31, 2009 as indicated on the convention registration form on Page 9. The current convention agenda can be found on Page 8. It looks like there will be many interesting talks this year as in years past and again a thanks to Layne for arranging those.

For a lot across our industry and many other sectors both public and private, current tough economic times have taken their toll. The upcoming convention and membership dues may not seem like a priority during these times, but it is important to remember the reason why being part of an organization like the Utah Ground Water Association is so important. As many of you know and have experienced directly, the people in our organization and industry are generally very tight-knit. Because of the times, it seems like it is even more important to stay involved in an organization that supports its members. The annual convention provides a venue for continued networking amongst one's peers and gives us all the rare opportunity of joining together as a group of people that work in the same industry, share common goals, and often have similar interests in and out of work. I hope to see each and every one of you at the convention this year and hope that the upcoming year finds you and yours happy and well.

Deidre Beck, Newsletter Editor

## 'NO RUSH' ON SNAKE VALLEY

BY AMI JOI O'DONOGHUE (TAKEN FROM SL TRIBUNE  
11/16/09)

Gov. Gary Herbert said there is no rush to sign an agreement with Nevada over sharing water in the Snake Valley aquifer, but stressed he didn't believe it prudent to suspend ongoing negotiations. Herbert met Monday with the Snake Valley Aquifer Advisory Council after members last week said they wanted negotiations between the two states shelved in light of a recent Nevada ruling. A district judge called the state water engineer's decision granting water rights to the Southern Nevada Water Authority in neighboring basins "arbitrary" and "capricious" and reversed the engineer's action.

The water authority has said it will appeal, but given the uncertainty invoked by the decision, critics of the water-sharing agreement said it would be best to wait until the judicial dispute is settled. But Herbert warned that his visit to Washington, D.C., last week gave him the "distinct impression" from Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., that Nevada officials are banking on the decision being overturned. Such a move, coupled with Utah dragging its heels, could mean the need for any agreement is moot.

"This is my personal opinion, but I think if we wait until there is a (judicial) resolution, I don't think there will be a state-to-state agreement," said Utah Department of Natural Resources executive director Mike Styler. "The need for it will have been removed from federal law." Negotiated and still in draft form, the agreement proposes to split the water in the aquifer in Snake Valley, which straddles the border of both states.

Congressional language in a land bill mandates such an agreement be reached between the two states prior to any interbasin transfer of water in the valley. Inserted at the request of Sen. Bob Bennett, R-Utah, after Styler and a coalition of worried ranchers and farmers asked him to intervene, the hint has been that the water transfer agreement provision can just as easily be deleted and Nevada won't have to negotiate with Utah at all.

The need for the agreement has reached a heightened level of interest on the part of Nevada given the water authority's plans to construct a \$3.5 billion pipeline that would convey water 285 miles to Las Vegas.

Styler has repeatedly said the agreement does not authorize the pipeline or any pumping, but is meant as a way to keep Utah at the negotiating table to ensure certain protections.

"It is better to be talking beforehand than in court afterward," he said during Monday's meeting. Although the state engineer was scheduled to hold hearings on the authority's water rights application in Snake Valley two years from now, the proposed agreement puts those hearings off until 2019, something the majority of council members agree gives science a chance to assess the effects of pumping the aquifer.



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- B. MANUFACTURER:** Any person, firm or corporation engaged in the manufacturing of equipment, or materials used in the ground water industry.
- C. SUPPLIER:** Any person, firm or corporation engaged in the sale of equipment or supplies associated with the ground water industry.
- D. TECHNICAL:** Any hydrologist, geologist, or engineer involved in teaching, research, consulting and or government services associated with the ground water industry.

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This membership allows the joining one representative and spouse/partner of a firm or corporation to benefit from all the privileges of membership in the Utah Ground Water Association. All membership dues are \$50.00 per year, with the year running from February to February. These dues cover membership only in the Utah Ground Water Association. The Utah Ground Water Association is affiliated with the National Ground Water Association and the Mountain States Ground Water Association.


# 'NO RUSH' ON SNAKE VALLEY

BY AMI JOI O'DONOGHUE (TAKEN FROM SL TRIBUNE 11/16/09) (CONTINUED)

"There is no rush here to sign an agreement that I can see," Herbert said. "We should be in the go-slow mode and move methodically ahead in negotiations there."

Herbert said such an agreement must include three key components: the assurance of Utah water rights' supremacy, the protection of the Snake Valley environment, and an equitable division of water resources.

After his participation in the meeting, Herbert said he believed the agreement under revision is maybe "80 (percent) to 85 percent



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## NEWS FROM THE STATE ENGINEER'S OFFICE

JIM GODDARD

Utah Division of Water Rights Well Drilling Program

During my presentations at the UGWA convention and other seminars, I have frequently referred to the ongoing grout study in Nebraska and the possible impacts to Utah grouting rules. The Nebraska Grout Task Force recently published results from its ongoing study of well grouting materials and methods (see below for detailed reference). The following is a brief summary of those results. The task force has been conducting in-situ studies of grout materials in differing soil and groundwater conditions to determine their relative effectiveness. Grout materials tested include bentonite slurry, bentonite chips, geothermal bentonite slurry, and cement-based grouts. Grout materials were emplaced around clear PVC casing. The placed grouts were then dye tested to determine the depth of dye penetration into the seals. Down-hole cameras were used to determine the level of dye penetration into the seals and generally observe the integrity of the seal materials placed against the casings.

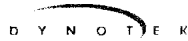
The study concluded that sediment particle size and moisture content of the soil adjacent to the seal have the largest impact on the stability of the grouts. Unsaturated soils tended to wick moisture from hydrated grouts causing grout dehydration, cracking, and voids. Where soils were more hydrated, cracking and dehydration tended not to be as severe. No cracking or voids were observed when adjacent soils were hydrated.

With regards to grout performance relative to dye penetration in the unsaturated (vadose) zone, sand-cement grouts and bentonite chips performed the best with 24% and 27% penetration, respectively. Cement based grouts were next with between 37% and 48% penetration. Bentonite slurry (>20% solids) and geothermal grout (bentonite-sand grout) had 65% and 67% penetration, respectively. Bentonite slurry with 20% solids has a penetration of 75%. Bentonite slurry with less than 20% solids performed poorly with 86% dye penetration.

The study also concluded that increased solids content in bentonite grouts enhanced grout performance. The Task Force continues to study grout performance in the unsaturated zone, and those result will be forthcoming.

### Reference:

*S.O. Lackey, W. F. Myers, T.C. Christopherson, & J.J. Gotula; October 2009; Nebraska Grout Task Force, In-Situ Study of Grout Materials 2001-2006 and 2007 Dye Tests; Educational Circular EC-20, Conservation and Survey Division, School of Natural Resources; Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources; University of Nebraska-Lincoln; 31 pages.*



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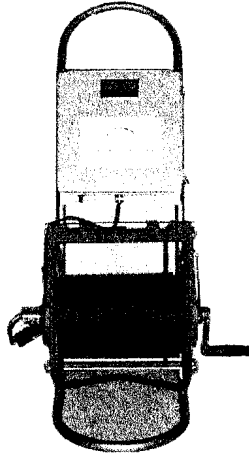
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**2010 UTAH GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION  
Annual Mesquite Convention  
Agenda**

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**Thursday, January 14th**

<b>Vendor Registration Set-up</b>	10:00 AM ~ 12:00 PM
<b>Pre Registered Check-in</b>	10:00 AM ~ 2:00 PM
<b>Doors Open &amp; Convention Registration</b>	12:00 PM ~ 2:00 PM
<b>Welcome and Announcements</b> Layne Read & Richard Peterson	2:00 PM ~ 2:30 PM
<b>Continuing Education Classes</b>	
Rules & Regulations. Whats new and review existing Jim Goddard, State of Utah	2:30 PM ~ 3:30 PM
TITLE - TBA Daniel T Meyer, CFO - Gregg Drilling & Testing / NGWA Director	3:30 PM ~ 4:30 AM
<b>Vendor Booth Social (w/cash bar)</b>	5:00 PM ~ 6:00 PM
<b>Banquet Dinner &amp; Auction</b>	6:15 PM ~ 10:00 PM

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**Friday, January 16th**

<b>Continental Breakfast / Vendor Booth Display</b>	7:00 AM ~ 8:00 AM
<b>Continuing Education Classes</b>	
Why motors fail Randy Woodland, Franklin Electric	8:00 AM ~ 9:00 AM
Advances in the GW Industry over the last 20 years Thom Hana PG, Johnson Screens	9:00 AM ~ 10:00 AM
<b>Break / Vendor Booth Visits</b>	10:00 AM ~ 10:30 AM
Water law and how it effects the GW Industry Updates in Utah water permit laws Wendy Crowther, esq.	10:30 AM ~ 11:30 AM
<b>UGWA General Membership Meeting &amp; Board Elections</b>	11:00 AM ~ 12:00 PM
<b>Lunch</b>	12:00 PM ~ 1:00 PM
DOT Safety and inspection protocols Bruce Fox, UDOT	1:00 PM ~ 2:30 PM
<b>Break / Vendor Booth Visit / Vendor Drawing</b>	2:30 PM ~ 3:00 PM
<b>Continuing Education Classes</b>	
Panel Discussion Robert Armstrong - Armstrong Drilling Chris DeKorver - Bowen, Collins Associates Mat Player - Delco Western TBA	3:00 PM ~ 4:15 PM
<b>Closing Remarks</b> Richard Peterson	4:15 PM ~ 4:30 PM
<b>Final Drawings / Convention Adjourned</b>	4:30 PM ~ 4:45 PM



## 2010 UTAH GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION Annual Mesquite Convention Registration Form January 14th & 15th at The Casa Blanca Casino & Resort

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Type: (select one)  Supplier  Technical  Manufacturer  Contractor licence # \_\_\_\_\_

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1	Member (includes convention registration & annual dues for 2010)	\$175	\$225	_____
_____	Affiliated Spouse/Employee (includes convention registration/class attendance)	\$125	\$175	_____
_____	Non-Member (you DO NOT want to be a 2010 member)	\$200	\$250	_____
<i>(Each of the above registrations Includes: Breakfast, Lunch and Fundraiser Dinner)</i>				
_____	Fundraiser Dinner & Auction (guests not attending convention)	\$30	\$50	_____
_____	Quilt Tickets (all proceeds go to the Crisis Fund)	\$1 each or 6 for \$5		_____
_____	Gun Tickets (all proceeds go to the Scholarship Fund)	\$2 each or 6 for \$10		_____
_____	HD 35" (or more) Television Tickets (all proceeds go to the Scholarship Fund)	\$50 each		_____
_____	Marsha Eppler Crisis Fund Donation			_____
_____	UGWA Scholarship Fund Donation			_____
_____	Vendor Booth Space <i>(includes 1 member &amp; 1 employee registration)</i>	\$400	\$500	_____
_____	Non-Displaying Vendor <i>(includes 1 member registration)</i>	\$300	\$400	_____

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### LIST OF ALL CONVENTION/CLASS ATTENDEES

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## COMPLIANCE INSPECTION OR SECURITY THREAT?

JERRY BRONICEL

Since taking an early medical retirement from the State Engineer's Office I have continued to occasionally do compliance inspections on public supply water well grout installations (as required by DEQ/DDW). Between the time with the state and since leaving I have been involved with over 1500 such inspections. One would assume that every possible scenario would have been encountered. NOT!

An inspection this last summer was unique and one that will hopefully never be revisited. It involved a replacement well for the City of Roy with the well actually located on a sliver of property within the confines of Hill Air Force Base. I supplied the licensed driller with the requisite identification (copies of drivers license, car registration, Navy discharge papers, birth certificate, etc.) to expedite access onto the base. On the first visit I stopped at the west gate security office to obtain the access pass only to find out I was supposedly not on the drillers clearance list which was provided to the independent, non-military contractor in charge of security issues on the base. The prolonged resolution was a call to the driller who insisted that I was, in fact, on the list and his subsequent call to an official with Roy City who then had to come to the base and personally escort me onto the site.

Due to a host of physical, mechanical, equipment and logistical problems a total of seven trips to the site were required to complete the inspection process. On the second attempt I again stopped at the security office with the assurance by the driller that I was now on the clearance list. As I proceeded to sit down at the desk of the same guy as the first try, I had a slight off-balance bobble and caught and stabilized myself with the arms of the chair. As many of you already know, one of the myriad of health issues resulting in the early medical retirement was a severe head injury that two inner ear surgeries and a 'brain transplant' have yet to correct and continued dynamic stability problems persist. I gave the security guy my name and purpose of the visit and with a quick passing glance at the list he claimed again I was not on it. He disappeared into a back office for 15 minutes and upon return made a hand gesture in my direction. As I stood up, two MP's grabbed both arms and escorted me to the back office for a strip search! This 'rent-a-cop' with the Napoleon complex obviously viewed me as a high security risk requiring military intervention. Following the personal search, breatholizer test and interrogation the MP's now escorted me outside for a vehicle search. As I was explaining my health history and balance issues and need for the handicap placard in my car, the one MP called the other over to the car. And as luck would have it, there on the front passenger seat was the sack of 8 of my current 12 prescriptions drugs (none of which were a controlled substance) that I had purchased an hour earlier on the way to the base. What had started out as an orange security breach had now risen to a crimson red terrorist attack! The MP's walkie talkies were now calling in the big guns. A sergeant major was on site within minutes, siren blaring, lights flashing and side arm at the ready. My continued attempt to explain the situation was falling on deaf ears. By now I assumed the grout was on site waiting for me to show up and with the 2% Calcium added the grout load was probably hot and getting hotter.

*Continued on Page 10*



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## COMPLIANCE INSPECTION OR SECURITY THREAT (CONTINUED)

I later learned the cement truck had also been detained at the gate as the driver was of Irish ancestry and he obviously was a rouge member of the IRA, hell bent on using his cement laden truck as a weapon of mass destruction somewhere on HAFB.

After pleading with the senior MP to use a bit of logic and common sense another call was placed to Roy City. After this ridiculous delay and totally unwarranted humiliation I was eventually issued a time limited pass on to the base. After finally reaching the well site, the cement hot batch had flash set, turning the cement truck and pumper truck into monolithic tributes to the insanity of the situation. By the time this disaster was moved out of the way a radio dispatched replacement truck of grout arrived just in time for the MP's to show up at the time specified on the pass with the order for me to leave the base. With the ensuing dialogue between the driller, the MP's and myself, I was convinced the driller and I would be spending the night in the brig. Luckily, the Roy City engineer arrived and brokered a temporary cease fire by making a call to the Mayor who made a call to the base commander who made a call to the security forces. Eventually cooler heads did prevail but the insanity of the entire escapade still lingers and the irrational and unwarranted behavior by those given a taste of power is frightening.

In reality we are all more likely to be killed by lightning or on the freeway than at the hands of a terrorist. Yet the recently prevailing climate that instilled fear, suspicion and mistrust into our psyche's has spiraled out of control and reached paralyzing proportions. Having experienced, first hand, that mentality, I for one, hope we can moderate the need to believe there is a terrorist on every corner, at every airport gate, or behind the wheel of a cement truck or at a public well for an inspection.

Coincidentally, within two weeks a real security breach occurred as a whaco crashed though the south entrance gate at HAFB in a SUV and it took the crack security details over six hours to track down and apprehend this legitimate, not imagined, security threat. This guy was also apparently not on the list and this time they couldn't even find the list.

Wishing you all a joyous holiday season and one without the angst and aggravation of this experience!

Jerry B.

a.k.a. 'Osama bin Bronicel'

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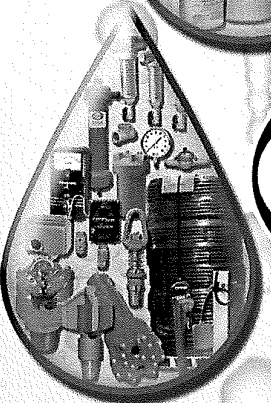
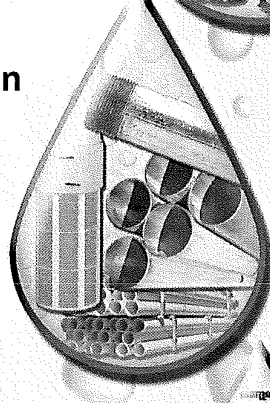
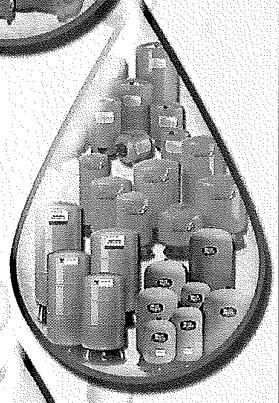
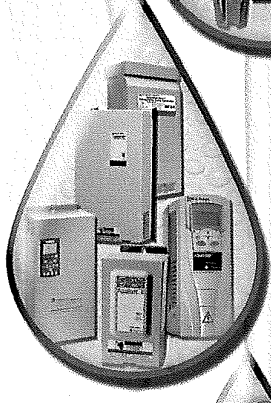
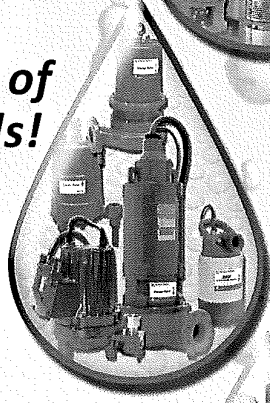
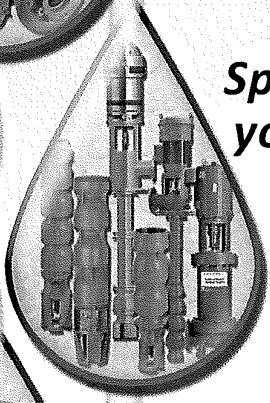
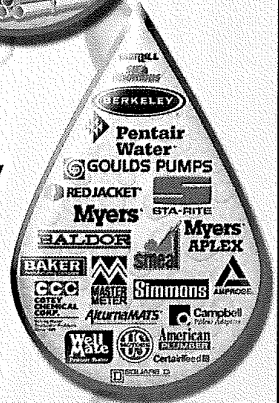
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## CEDAR CITY LOOKS FOR NEW WATER

BY SAMANTHA ARNOLD—(TAKEN FROM THE SPECTRUM  
NOVEMBER 22, 2009)

CEDAR CITY - Dwindling water resources throughout Southern Utah are causing residents and city officials to take a look at possible sources of water acquisition using groundwater drilling. Cedar City uses 16,632 gallons of culinary water per day on average, said Robbie Mitchell, Cedar City Water superintendent. About 80 percent of the water from the city's seven wells, located at Quichipa Lake and just outside of Enoch, is used for irrigation purposes, Mitchell said.

Cedar City Council member Dale Brinkerhoff said the city has a substantial need for water resources other than relying on the water that could come in with the construction of the Lake Powell Pipeline. "We need to explore the options we have in the surrounding areas," he said. Local geologist Blair Maxfield recently completed a study regarding possible water resources within the area using groundwater drilling through the Navajo Sandstone.

In his study, Maxfield focuses on possible water drilling sites in areas such as east of the Hurricane fault system and the Bowers Flat area. "I'm convinced we haven't taken advantage of all the water that is available," he said. After working for some time as a geologist in the field, Maxfield worked as a professor at Southern Utah University. Now retired, he became interested in the local water issue through a friend and engineer Kal Kaylor.

Kaylor spent his engineering career working throughout the western states doing various types of engineering including irrigation engineering, and now works as a liaison for the Iron County Commission on water matters with the Central Iron County Water Conservancy District. Kaylor agrees there are other resources out there that the city and county should consider. The two spend some of their time out investigating potential drilling sites within the area, Kaylor said. "That is why we have been out running around checking out the areas near New Harmony and other places," he said.

Although there are logistics with the plan proposed by Maxfield in his study, the geologist said the ideas are easier to manage both physically and financially than if the city just relies on the Lake Powell Pipeline for water. "I like the Lake Powell Pipeline, but I'm concerned about it," Maxfield said. "I am worried about the lawsuits ... and the expense to get the water up here." Evidence of over-utilizing aquifers is the large fissure located near Midvalley Road in Enoch, Maxfield said. "We are overproducing the aquifer," he said. "We better start looking at other areas to pump water."

Brinkerhoff said the city is looking at addressing its immediate water needs. "My own preference is that we would look at some exploratory wells that are outside our normal well field outside Quichipa," he said.

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