

MINUTES OF THE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Mark Taddiken at 8:30 a.m. on February 19, 2001 in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Chairman Tyson - excused

Committee staff present: Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department
Jill Wolters, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Judy Krase, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: none

Others attending: See attached list

Senator Schmidt moved that the minutes from the February 9 and February 12, 2001 meetings be approved, seconded by Senator Oleen. The motion passed.

Senator Taddiken directed the Committee's attention to working **SB 264**.

Senator Downey submitted an amendment to the bill. The amendment would raise the rate cap on water users in the bill from 98 cents to \$1.19 (Attachment 1). Senator Downey moved that the Committee adopt the amendment, seconded by Senator Oleen. The motion passed.

Senator Downey then moved that **SB 264** be passed as amended, seconded by Senator Umbarger. The motion passed.

Senator Taddiken reminded all present that the Subcommittee on **SB 204** would be meeting on Wednesday, February 21 in Room 527-S at 7:30 a.m. Senator Schmidt noted that if the Senate Agriculture Committee decided not to meet at their regular time on Wednesday, then the Natural Resources Subcommittee could meet in their place at 8:30 a.m. in Room 423-S.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40.

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

GUEST LIST

DATE: 2-19-01

NAME	REPRESENTING
David Miller	DOB
Lutecia Reed	KDA
Ladd Johnson	KLA
John Scherer	KS Camp Counsel
Steve M. Strubell	REAP
Mike Beam	Ks. Trout Assn.

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February 12, 2001

TO: Senator Christine Downey
FR: Brad Franz, President
Board of Directors
Equus Beds Groundwater Management District #2
RE: Friendly Amendment to SB 264

As we discussed last week, I respectfully request you offer an amendment to SB 264 to raise the rate cap on water users in the bill from 98 cents to \$1.19. As you know, both of these amounts are an increase over the current statutory rate cap for the assessments on water users of 60 cents per acre-foot.

The higher cap of \$1.19 is needed to allow GMD #2 to finance operations for approximately five years before returning to the legislature for another adjustment in the cap.

To address this need, the following change should be made in New Section 7 on page 7, line 37 of SB 264:

32 New Section 7. (a) In order to finance the operations of the district, the
33 Board may assess an annual water user charge against every person who
34 withdraws groundwater from within the boundaries of the district. The
35 board shall base such charge upon the amount of groundwater allocated
36 for such persons' use pursuant to such person's water right. Such charge
37 shall not exceed ~~\$-.98~~ **\$1.19** for each acre-foot (325,851 gallons) of groundwater
38 withdrawn within the district or allocated by the water right. Whenever