

Concurrent Resolution Regarding the Grand County Water Conservancy District

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Carl R. Albrecht

LONG TITLE**Committee Note:**

The Legislative Water Development Commission recommended this bill.

Legislative Vote: 9 voting for 0 voting against 4 absent

General Description:

This resolution expresses support for the transfer of federal water infrastructure to the Grand County Water Conservancy District.

Highlighted Provisions:

This resolution:

- urges Congress to transfer to the Grand County Water Conservancy District water infrastructure owned by the federal government for the conveyance of water from the Green River to the Moab Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action project site.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein:

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Energy (DOE) controls and operates a pipeline, several pump stations, and a storage reservoir for the conveyance of water from the Green River to the Moab Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action (UMTRA) project site located near Crescent Junction, Utah;

WHEREAS, the DOE holds the rights of way necessary to convey the water to the Moab UMTRA project site using the existing water infrastructure;

WHEREAS, the DOE expects to complete the Moab UMTRA project in the near future and will no longer need the water infrastructure or related rights of way;

WHEREAS, the water infrastructure currently controlled and operated by the DOE, if transferred to the Grand County Water Conservancy District (district), could be used by the district to provide water security to rural residents in and around northern Grand County;

32 WHEREAS, persistent drought conditions, groundwater depletion, and
33 privately-controlled water delivery systems pose a serious risk to the water security of Utahns
34 living in northern Grand County, including rural towns like Thompson Springs;

35 WHEREAS, if the water infrastructure currently controlled and operated by the DOE
36 were transferred to the district, the district could continue delivering water to the Moab
37 UMTRA project site until the project's completion and provide water security to rural residents
38 in northern Grand County;

39 WHEREAS, the district holds approximately 2,500 acre feet annually of unused water
40 rights in the Green River that the district could access if the district operated the water
41 infrastructure currently controlled and operated by the DOE;

42 WHEREAS, the DOE supports the transfer of the water infrastructure to the district for
43 the benefit of local communities;

44 WHEREAS, the people of Utah have a long history of successful stewardship over the
45 management and delivery of Utah's water supply;

46 WHEREAS, the state water policy sets forth that the state "shall pursue adequate,
47 reliable, affordable, sustainable, and clean water resources," as described in Utah Code
48 Subsection 73-1-21(a); and

49 WHEREAS, the state water policy sets forth that the state "will promote water resource
50 development and the creation of new water infrastructure necessary to meet the state's growing
51 demand and promote economic development," as described in Utah Code Subsection
52 73-1-21(b)(ii):

53 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the
54 Governor concurring therein, supports the transfer of federal water infrastructure described in
55 this resolution to the Grand County Water Conservancy District.

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor
57 concurring therein, urges Congress to transfer the water infrastructure described in this
58 resolution to the Grand County Water Conservancy District.

59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be transmitted to the
60 members of Utah's congressional delegation.