



For Immediate Release
July 7, 2016

Contact: Karry Rathje
Public Information Manager
435.668.5622
krathje@wcwcd.utah.gov

WATER DISTRICT TO INSTALL SMART METERS ON TOQUERVILLE SECONDARY WATER SYSTEM

Approximately 400 residential and agricultural users of the Toquerville Secondary Water System will soon have their untreated water metered as the Washington County Water Conservancy District (district) installs smart meters at a cost of \$700,000, of which \$300,000 will be paid by the *WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grants* awarded by the Bureau of Reclamation for fiscal year 2016. Meters will start being installed in late 2016.

The district has always metered its potable/culinary water, but the metering of secondary water is a fairly new practice for most cities throughout the nation. Secondary water is untreated water that does not meet standards required by the Safe Drinking Water Act. Many water conservancy districts throughout the state of Utah are investing in secondary water meters in an effort to enhance system efficiencies, water savings and accounting practices.

“Adding meters to the Toquerville Secondary Water System is part of a broader conservation effort focused on education and accountability,” said Ron Thompson, general manager of the district. “Use will be remotely tracked so we better understand how and where water is being used and can target areas for improved efficiencies. We anticipate these efforts will save approximately 900 acre feet of water per year, which will be reallocated to other uses to offset increased demand caused by growth.”

Other project benefits include:

- Real-time monitoring
- Water user reports detailing actual vs. suggested use
- Ability to account for system loss
- More accurate water use accounting
- Improved distribution service

Washington County Water Conservancy District is a not-for-profit public agency established in 1962 to manage Southern Utah’s regional water needs. The district oversees the development, stabilization, management, acquisition and conservation of water resources in Washington County in an ongoing effort to provide a safe, reliable water supply for current and future generations. Visit www.wcwcd.org for more information.