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| 1 | CHANGE APPLICATION AMENDMENTS |
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| 2 | 2012 GENERAL SESSION |
| 3 | STATE OF UTAH |
| 4 | Chief Sponsor: Ryan D. Wilcox |
| 5 | Senate Sponsor: Ralph Okerlund |
| 6 | |
| 7 | LONG TITLE |
| 8 | General Description: |
| 9 | This bill modifies the requirements for filing a change application on a federal |
| 10 | reclamation project water right. |
| 11 | Highlighted Provisions: |
| 12 | This bill: |
| 13 | requires certain signatures on a change application for a federal reclamation project |
| 14 | water right; and |
| 15 | makes technical changes. |
| 16 | Money Appropriated in this Bill: |
| 17 | None |
| 18 | Other Special Clauses: |
| 19 | None |
| 20 | Utah Code Sections Affected: |
| 21 | AMENDS: |
| 22 | 73-3-3, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 311 |
| 23 | |
| 24 | Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah: |
| 25 | Section 1. Section 73-3-3 is amended to read: |
| 26 | 73-3-3. Permanent or temporary changes in point of diversion, place of use, or |
| 27 | purpose of use. |
| 28 | (1) For purposes of this section: |
| 29 | (a) "Permanent change" means a change for an indefinite period of time with an intent |

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| 30 | to relinquish the original point of diversion, place of use, or purpose of use. |
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| 31 | (b) "Temporary change" means a change for a fixed period of time not exceeding one |
| 32 | year. |
| 33 | (2) (a) [Any] Subject to Subsection (2)(c), a person entitled to the use of water may |
| 34 | make permanent or temporary changes in the: |
| 35 | (i) point of diversion; |
| 36 | (ii) place of use; or |
| 37 | (iii) purpose of use for which the water was originally appropriated. |
| 38 | (b) Except as provided by Section 73-3-30, a change may not be made if it impairs a |
| 39 | vested water right without just compensation. |
| 40 | (c) A change application on a federal reclamation project water right shall be signed |
| 41 | <u>by:</u> |
| 42 | (i) the local water users organization that is contractually responsible for: |
| 43 | (A) the operation and maintenance of the project; or |
| 44 | (B) the repayment of project costs; and |
| 45 | (ii) the record owner of the water right. |
| 46 | (3) A person entitled to use water shall change a point of diversion, place of use, or |
| 47 | purpose of water use, including water involved in a general adjudication or other suit, in the |
| 48 | manner provided in this section. |
| 49 | (4) (a) A person entitled to use water may not make a change unless the state engineer |
| 50 | approves the change application. |
| 51 | (b) A person entitled to use water shall submit a change application upon forms |
| 52 | furnished by the state engineer and shall set forth: |
| 53 | (i) the applicant's name; |
| 54 | (ii) the water right description; |
| 55 | (iii) the water quantity; |
| 56 | (iv) the stream or water source; |
| 57 | (v) if applicable, the point on the stream or water source where the water is diverted; |

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58 (vi) if applicable, the point to which it is proposed to change the diversion of the water; 59 (vii) the place, purpose, and extent of the present use; 60 (viii) the place, purpose, and extent of the proposed use; and 61 (ix) any other information that the state engineer requires. 62 (5) (a) The state engineer shall follow the same procedures, and the rights and duties of 63 the applicants with respect to applications for permanent changes of point of diversion, place of 64 use, or purpose of use shall be the same, as provided in this title for applications to appropriate 65 water. 66 (b) The state engineer may waive notice for a permanent change application involving 67 only a change in point of diversion of 660 feet or less. 68 (6) (a) The state engineer shall investigate all temporary change applications. 69 (b) If the state engineer finds that the temporary change will not impair a vested water 70 right, the state engineer shall issue an order authorizing the change. 71 (c) If the state engineer finds that the change sought might impair a vested water right, 72 before authorizing the change, the state engineer shall give notice of the application to any 73 person whose right may be affected by the change. 74 (d) Before making an investigation or giving notice, the state engineer may require the 75 applicant to deposit a sum of money sufficient to pay the expenses of the investigation and 76 publication of notice. 77 (7) (a) Except as provided by Section 73-3-30, the state engineer may not reject a permanent or temporary change application for the sole reason that the change would impair a 78 79 vested water right. 80 (b) If otherwise proper, the state engineer may approve a permanent or temporary 81 change application for part of the water involved or upon the condition that the applicant 82 acquire the conflicting water right. 83 (8) (a) A person holding an approved application for the appropriation of water may 84 change the point of diversion, place of use, or purpose of use. 85 (b) A change of an approved application does not:

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86 (i) affect the priority of the original application; or 87 (ii) extend the time period within which the construction of work is to begin or be 88 completed. 89 (9) Any person who changes or who attempts to change a point of diversion, place of 90 use, or purpose of use, either permanently or temporarily, without first applying to the state 91 engineer in the manner provided in this section: 92 (a) obtains no right; 93 (b) is guilty of a crime punishable under Section 73-2-27 if the change or attempted 94 change is made knowingly or intentionally; and 95 (c) is guilty of a separately punishable offense for each day of the unlawful change. 96 (10) (a) This section does not apply to the replacement of an existing well by a new 97 well drilled within a radius of 150 feet from the point of diversion of the existing well. 98 (b) Any replacement well must be drilled in accordance with the requirements of 99 Section 73-3-28.