



**PONDEROSA ADVISORS LLC**

energy agriculture water

February 2, 2015

Senator Chas Vincent  
Montana Senate  
PO Box 200500  
Helena, MT 59620-0500

Senator Vincent,

In response to recent questions regarding interpretation of water right abstracts, I am providing the attached article. This article is based upon my past experience as a Senior Water Master with the Montana Water Court, although it is not intended to speak for the Court or represent its opinion. The article references the Montana Claims Examination Manual, and includes discussion of the elements of water rights as shown on water right abstracts, with examples of each field.

I am available to answer any questions or to provide additional information.

Sincerely,

Colleen Coyle  
Director, Water Services  
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