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“Utah Judge Clears Way for Nuclear Power Plant in Central Utah”

[Click here](#) to read this story by Curtis Haring of Utah Political Capitol

[Click here](#) to read this story by Kristen Moulton of the Salt Lake Tribune

[Click here to read the Decision of the Judge](#)

The judges decision confirms that water, finances and endangered fish will continue to be problematic for the promoters of this project and their intentions to sell their package to a power utility in the future. It affirms that the Blue Castle Project is more about securing water rights, than it is about securing Utah’s energy future.

- 1) The water right of the Central Utah Project will NOT be junior to the water right of Kane County, which is year 1965.
- 2) The year 2000 priority for San Juan County’s water is junior to Kane County’s water right. Thus the combined water for the proposed project is tiered, and subject to vulnerabilities much like the Central Arizona Project would be in times of declared water shortages.
- 3) Nuclear power is risky in places where water is abundant, but Judge Harmond’s decision makes it clear that nuclear power in the state of Utah is even riskier, simply because the Colorado River basin is over-appropriated and suffering from the impacts of increasing aridity and increased water consumption.