Water-related issues affecting conventional oil and gas recovery and potential oil shale development in the Uinta Basin, Utah

Year 1 Review
October 8, 2009

Project website: geology.utah.gov/emp/UBwater_study
Overall Goals

1) Address saline water disposal problems that hinder oil and natural gas development in the Uinta Basin, Utah

2) Assess how saline water disposal from conventional petroleum development might create technical and economic hurdles for a prospective oil shale industry

3) Collect baseline surface- and ground-water information for lands with oil shale development potential

**Data from Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining and EPA Region 8**
Tasks to be Performed

Task 1: Project Management

Task 2: Moderately Saline Aquifer Study
  - Task Leader – Paul Anderson, Consulting Geologist

Task 3: Geologic Examination of the Birds Nest Aquifer
  - Task Leader – Michael Vanden Berg, UGS

Task 4: Baseline Water Quality and Quantity GIS Database
  - Task Leader – Janae Wallace, UGS

Task 5: Integration of Analysis of Produced Water from Simulated In-situ Oil Shale Extraction Technologies (collaboration with the University of Utah)
  - Task Leaders – Michael Vanden Berg and Milind Deo, U of U

Task 6: Technology Transfer