City.

The reservoir has a total storage capacity of 4,228 acre-feet of water, or 1.38 billion gallons of water. The added storage will more than double the amount of water available during the growing season for farms, residential yards and gardens, the Kanab High School Football Field, and potentially other recreational and public areas in the city such as the parks, and cemetery.

Completion of the reservoir comes, as Kane County is experiencing one of the driest winters on record.

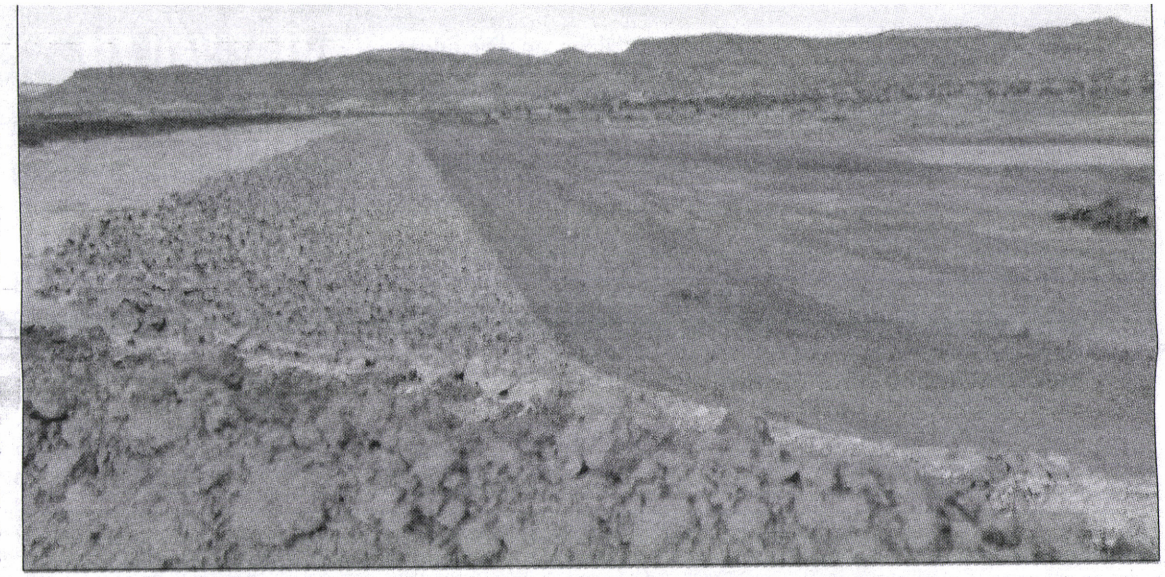
"It is amazing what a year's difference will make," said Eaton. A year ago at this time, construction on the reservoir was at standstill due to the record breaking precipitation."

Construction crews were able have already begun irrigating, said Clayson.

The 24-inch supply line from the upper Kanab Irrigation diversion can add eight cubic feet per second of water or just shy of 16 acre feet per day into the reservoir. In 132 days, the reservoir will fill to 2114 acre-feet or 50% of capacity. There will be a 400-acre foot conservation pool and under normal operating conditions the reservoir can be maintained at over 50% capacity.

Water will begin to flow into the reservoir in the fall once the irrigation season is over, said Clayson. At capacity, the average depth of the reservoir will be approximately 28 feet, with a maximum depth of 40 feet. At capacity the reservoir will cover approximately 232 acres.

Although the KCWCD had no



A dedication ceremony for the Jackson Flat Reservoir project is planned for later this fall when water can be fully diverted to the reservoir. A test of the inlet structures and gate valves is scheduled for mid-February.

C/025/005 Incoming Southern Utah News Feb 1, 2012

Kane County Commission firmly behind Alton Coal Project

By Matt Brown,
Kane County Economic Development Director

One of the main themes of the Kane County Commission over the past year has been to develop the county's natural resources and create family-sustaining jobs in the area. They reaffirmed this position last Friday when they submitted their official comments on the Alton Coal Tract Lease and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The purpose of the DEIS is to help the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) make a decision as to whether mining operations should be allowed on federal land near Alton.

Commissioners Dirk Clayson and Doug Heaton spent several days at the legislature last week, meeting with those in a position to influence the decision. They have the support of Governor Herbert, who has supported the Alton Coal project for some time.

If the BLM approves the proposal for mining on federal lands, Kane and Garfield counties could receive an economic impact in the neighborhood of $1.5 billion over the next 30 years and bring at least 240 new good-paying jobs to the area.

State and local governments will also benefit to the tune of $170 million in the form of mining royalties, along with fuel sales and property taxes. Significant portions of these royalties and taxes will come back to the area to benefit the counties that made the revenue possible.

Alton Coal Development (ACD), based in Cedar City, has been mining coal on private tracts of land south of Alton for the past year, and has shipped over 500,000 tons of coal to power generating facilities near Delta. ACD presently employers 29 workers.

Barney Trucking, based in Salina, has hauled most of the coal to Delta and presently has 28 truck drivers employed exclusively to haul what ACD produces. Trucking operations are based out of Panguitch.

Alton Coal Development Mine Manager Larry Johnson says they will continue to ramp up production during 2012 on the private land. He said ACD has under contract one million tons of coal to be delivered this year. ACD expects to produce 1.5 million tons in 2013, and two million in 2014. The total coal reserves on the private tract are approximately six million tons. Johnson said hiring both at the mine and at Barney Trucking would continue to rise proportionately to the coal they have under contract.

Environmental groups oppose the mining and have tried to convince those not familiar with the area that the coal deposits are immediately adjacent to Bryce Canyon. The fact is that the mine is more than 10 miles from Bryce's nearest boundary. Geographical cross-sections produced for the county show that it's impossible to see the valley where the mine is located from any point within the boundaries of Bryce Canyon. Most viewpoints at Bryce are around 8000 feet elevation and the mountain ranges between the canyon and the mine are in excess of 9000 feet. The mine is at 6800 feet elevation.

Commissioner Heaton, who lives in Alton, said, "I can't see the mine from Alton during the day, nor have I ever been able to see any lights from the mine at night, so I don't see how anyone could possibly know it was there if they're inside the park. The bottom line is, this project will be good for Alton and Kane County."

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