

IN THE WATER COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

LOCAL RULE ON ELECTRONIC FILINGS

M. R. Civ. P. 5(d)(3) provides:

A court may, by local rule, allow papers to be filed, signed, or verified by electronic means, including facsimile, that are consistent with any technical standards established by the court or local rule. A paper filed by electronic means in compliance with a local rule is a written paper for purposes of these rules.

Providing for electronic filing of documents will be convenient for litigants and enable the Water Court to operate more efficiently.

Accordingly, the Water Court adopts the following local rule.

Water Court Local Rules

1.) Electronic Filing, Signing and Verification

The Water Court accepts electronic filing of documents under 25 pages in length. Documents may be filed by facsimile to (406)522-4131 or emailed to watercourt@mt.gov. Electronically filed documents shall include either a handwritten signature or an electronic signature. Electronic signatures shall be in the following form: "/s/ John Doe".

Emailed documents must be in PDF format. Proposed orders must be in Microsoft Word format. Electronic filing will not be accepted for any document over 25 pages including attachments and exhibits. Documents exceeding the 25 page limit must be filed in paper form. When a document is filed electronically, a duplicate paper document should not be filed.