April 28, 2004

CITY OF TETONIA
PO BOX 55
TETONIA ID 83452

IMPORTANT NOTICE; PLEASE READ

RE: EVIDENCE OF PRIORITY FOR SRBA WATER RIGHT CLAIM 22-04098 AND 22-04099

Dear Claimant (s):

The Idaho Department of Water Resources is nearing the end of water rights review in Basin 23, the Swan Valley area. The Notice(s) of Claim identified with the number shown above has been filed in the Snake River Basin Adjudication (SRBA). The Notice of Claim indicates water usage is based on "Beneficial Use". Water rights of this type are established by the historical use of water, dating back to when water was first used for the purpose claimed, at or on the place of use identified on the Claim. The date the water was first put to beneficial use, known as the priority date, has not been confirmed by License, Decree, or Permit. For this reason, proof must be provided supporting the priority date. **As the claimant, you are responsible for submitting the necessary proof to support the priority date.**

Your claims, as referenced above, claim Priority Dates of SEPTEMBER 1, 1955 and OCTOBER 1, 1941, respectively, from WELLS.

It is important that each element of the Notice of Claim be verified. For instance, regarding claims for irrigation, the evidence should tend to show that diversion works were in place, that they were capable of diverting the claimed diversion rate, and that the diverted water was beneficially used on the entire claimed place of use on or before the claimed priority date.

For your reference, I have provided a printout of your Notice of Claim and the pamphlet entitled **"Evidence of Priority".** The pamphlet describes the types of evidence which are acceptable and suggests which documents will fulfill this requirement. While I encourage you to read the entire pamphlet, I direct your attention to the two sections entitled **"What Kind of Evidence is Required"** and **"Some Examples of Documents Which May Be Evidence of the Priority Date". PLEASE READ THE ENCLOSED PAMPHLET.**

It is our goal to recommend historical water rights within the Snake River Basin as accurately as possible. Field exams to verify other elements of the Notice of Claim have