



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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JAMES E. RISCH
Governor

KARL J. DREHER
Director

January 11, 2007

TIM & VALERIE O NEILL
5844 DUPOND AVE S
MINNEAPOLIS MN 55419

Re: Tower Creek Adjudication Recommendation

Dear Mr. & Mrs. O Neil:

Enclosed is a spreadsheet that summarizes recommendations filed with the SRBA court for claims for water from Tower Creek for properties that were settled in the 1890's or early 1900's. The claims had a wide array of priority dates and evidence in support of those priority dates was received. Some of you filed a Notice of Error in response to the Recommended Findings that were mailed out to claimants in November 2006. Some of you may have already received a response from us regarding your Notice of Error.

After looking at each right separately, we concluded that a more systematic approach to how recommendations were made was required. It seemed to us that it made sense to have the same priority date recommended for all of the property that was originally part of a single homestead. To that end we evaluated the Evidence of Priority information that was submitted and used the earliest date that we felt could be verified. In some cases documents were submitted that may reference dates earlier than what we have recommended, but the extent of development was not quantified. The spreadsheet lists the various water rights and the basis for the selection of the date used. Please note that you still have the option of filing an objection with the court if you disagree with these recommendations

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely

Robert G. Haynes P.E.
Regional Manager