



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER
Governor

DAVID R. TUTHILL, JR.
Director

December 11, 2008

Wayne Ridley, Chairman
Snake River Irrigation District
P.O. Box 9
Grand View, Idaho 83624

Re: Snake River Basin Adjudication (SRBA)
Water Right Recommendations #2-78, 2-79

Dear Wayne,

You will find this letter with maps that attempt to resolve the objection to the water right boundary the BLM filed. I have worked with a staff member of BLM to reach the agency's tentative agreement for the revised boundary. Revising the boundary does not change the irrigated acres for the water rights recommended in the Director's Report. I am confident before February 19, 2009, we will sign a stipulated agreement, called SF5, for the water rights submitting a revised boundary to the Court for decree of the water rights for the District.

I anticipate you and one or more board members will want to meet with me about these maps. I have sent the maps to give you a chance to review the information and proposed changes to avoid getting the maps cold and for the first time in a meeting. Dixie can call me with the date and time that will work for you all. I would suggest meeting before January 16, 2009. We should be able to reach agreement on the boundary line in time to file the SF5 with the Court and avoid an initial Court hearing on the objections February 19th or 20th. The BLM, you, and IDWR will have to sign the SF5s. Any attorney the District has who has not yet filed a Notice of Appearance in the Court for these water rights will probably take some time, too, to review the documents. I have probably been too slow already.

The smaller maps are close-ups of the changes. The new proposed new line is sort of pink. The green line with yellowish cross-hatching is the boundary sent to the Court in the Director's Report to which BLM objected. The smaller maps are numbered starting on the west end working east. I don't think you all will have much trouble orienting yourselves. I have included a larger map with both lines, just in case, to show the entire District. I did not label on the larger map where each of the smaller, zoomed maps are, but I don't think you all will have any trouble.

Wayne Ridley, Chairman
Snake River Irrigation District
December 11, 2008

Thank you, Wayne, for your service to the District and your help to me.
Together, we'll get these water rights through this process and decreed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Shaff', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Donald V. Shaff, MPA
Adjudication Bureau Chief

Enclosures