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DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE
STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS
FILE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE
STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS

In Re SRBA	)	Subcase Nos.: 34-12507 and 34-12507A
	)	
Case No. 39576	)	ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO
	)	CONSOLIDATE

A *Standard Form 5* hearing was held for subcase 34-12507 and 34-12507A on February 7, 1996. At the hearing, IDWR reported that 34-12507 and 34-12507A are the same water right, but were reported under separate water right numbers by IDWR. The two numbers were assigned by IDWR because this water right is a so-called "dual based" claim, where the claimant asserted two theories which could entitle it to a water right; one is based on Idaho state law, another theory is based on federal law. At the hearing, counsel for the claimant United States, moved to consolidate the two subcases. The *Motion to Consolidate* is **granted**.

Under the rules of procedure established by *SRBA Administrative Order 1*, Section 9, *Motions to Consolidate* may be made by any party to a subcase. The standards set forth in I.R.C.P. 42(a) are applied in determining *Motions to Consolidate*.

SRBA Administrative Order 1 (A.O.1), Section 9 provides that:

A motion to consolidate subcases is appropriate in situations where common issues of law or fact present themselves in more than one subcase and resolution and reconciliation of those issues can be most expeditiously and effectively achieved through presentation to the Presiding Judge or special master in consolidated hearings.

A.O.1, Section 9 (June 21, 1993).

The standard for consolidation set forth in *A.O.1*, Section 9 is essentially identical to the standard in I.R.C.P. 42(a) which states:

When actions involving a common question of law or fact are pending before the court, it may order a joint hearing or trial of any or all the matters in issue in the actions; it may order all actions consolidated; and it may make such orders concerning proceedings therein as may tend to avoid unnecessary costs or delay.

I.R.C.P. 42(a)

Under both standards, a judge or special master looks at three essential factors; 1) are there questions of law which are common to all subcases; 2) are there questions of fact which are common to all subcases; and 3) will consolidation of the subcases avoid unnecessary costs and lead to more expeditious and efficient presentation to the judge or special master. *A.O.I.*, Section 9 (June 21, 1993); I.R.C.P. 42(a).

Questions of law and fact are common to both subcases since both 34-12507 and 34-12507A are the same water right; in addition consolidation is mandatory to provide efficient and expeditious adjudication of this water right.

Therefore, the *Motion to Consolidate* is **granted**. All further pleadings shall be filed in and proceedings held under subcase number 34-12507A.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED February 12, 1996.



BRIGETTE BILYEU
Special Master, Reporting Area 1
Snake River Basin Adjudication

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

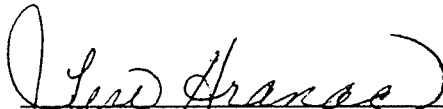
I certify that a true and correct copy of the ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO CONSOLIDATE was mailed on February 12, 1996, with sufficient first-class postage to the following:

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