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STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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WATER RESOURCES

NOTICE OF PROTEST

This form may be used to file a protest with the department under sections 42-108B, 42-203A, 42-203C, 42-211, and 42-222, Idaho Code. The department will also accept a timely protest not completed on this form if it contains the same information.

Application for Amendment of Permit 63-32423 (Dry Creek Water Co, LLC)

1. Matter being protested _____

Echanove Ranch Homeowners Association

2. Name of protestant _____

3. Protestant's Representative for service (If different than protestant)

Julia Whiting, President

4. Service mailing address _____
6122 W Dry Creek Road, Boise ID 83714

5. Service telephone no. _____ Email Address: _____
208 859-1923 farmerjulie@gmail.com

6. Basis of protest (including statement of facts and law upon which the protest is based)
See attachment

(additional pages may be attached to describe nature of the protest)

7. What would resolve your protest? _____
See attachment

I hereby, acknowledge that if I, or my designated representative, fails to appear at any regularly scheduled conference or hearing in the matter of which I have been notified at the address above, the department may issue a notice of proposed default against me in this matter for failure to appear. I also verify that I have served a copy of this protest upon the applicant.

Signed this 21 day of March, 2022.
Echanove Ranch Homeowners Association

Protestant

Protestant's Representative

Julia Whiting

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DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

Echanove Ranch Homeowners Association
6122 W Dry Creek Road, Boise ID 83714
21 March 2022

Notice of Protest - Application for Amendment of Permit 63-32423

Basis of Protest

The Echanove Ranch HOA consists of 15 ten-acre lots on the former Echanove Ranch, east of the Dry Creek Ranch development. We are primarily rural in nature. For our agricultural use, we rely on Dry Creek surface water when it is available and ground water when the creek is dry. Our irrigation water right priority dates are 9/13/1874 for Dry Creek and 7/14/1959 for ground water. We also rely on domestic wells for our homes. We are very much opposed to this Dry Creek Water Company request to add a third municipal well.

The application seeks approval to add a third municipal well with a capacity of 5.0 cfs (cubic feet per second), for a total diversion rate of 7.84 cfs and 1,764 acre-feet per year. 5.0 cfs is 2,244 gpm (gallons per minute) to provide a total capacity of 3,518 gpm (1,849,060,800 gallons per year), many times more water than has ever been removed before.

The historic consumptive use of this aquifer has never been determined. The Dry Creek Ranch area has historically been used primarily for agriculture. Ground water use has been seasonal, allowing the aquifer time to recharge. The effects of a huge year-round municipal draw on the water cannot be known, or even reasonably estimated. Should damage occur it could be too late to reclaim the potential lost wells.

The request proposes drilling the well at full capacity now as a "redundant" system, with the intent of using only 70% for three years and then expanding to full use. We are concerned that this is not enough time to determine potential disruption to the aquifer, particularly if the well is not in full use. We can assume that the intent is to make this the primary well and the two smaller wells redundant. Even so, who will know in three years what will happen when Dry Creek Ranch is built to capacity? By that time the damage to the aquifer could be done.

What would resolve our protest?

Without detailed and long-term hydrological studies, the capacity of the Dry Creek Valley aquifer is unknowable.

We feel that Dry Creek Ranch should consider planning now, while in construction, to buy water for their municipal use, and continue to use their irrigation water right for landscaping etc., rather than waiting until the valley aquifer is damaged. Thank you for your consideration.

Julia Whiting, President
208 859-1923
farmerjulie@gmail.com