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WATER RESOURCES
WESTERN REGION

Notice of Protest

Matter being protested: Application for Transfer of Water Right (Transfer No. 83875, Water Right No. 63-32616)

Name of protestant: Mary Walsh

Mailing address:

1650 W. Targee Street

#50028

Boise, ID 83705

Telephone Number: 208-863-8117

E-mail address: AugustustPendergrass@gmail.com

Basis of protest:

The transfer application seeks to eventually stop diverting water from a location outside the Mountain Home Ground Water Management Area to diverting water from two locations within the Mountain Home Ground Water Management Area. These new locations are also closer to the Cinder Cone Critical Water Management Area. As per Idaho Statutes, Title 42, Chapter 2, Section 42-233B a ground water management area is any ground water basin which may be approaching the conditions of a critical ground water area. Changing the existing diversion location to two new points of diversion within an area already known to be threatened may cause additional stress to the ground water management area and to the local residents that are reliant upon the limited resources within that area. In addition to the loss of the agricultural uses of the water over time, which are usually based upon a defined season and amount, the cumulative irrigation demand of a large number of individual residential lawns, common open spaces, parks, etc. in a proposed place of use more than twice the size of the existing one may prove to be a substantial drain upon the already stressed water budget in the area. This is especially true when one considers the speculative nature of growth in the area and how long the ground water will be called upon to fill in for a lack of sufficient grey water from which to irrigate.

What would resolve your protest?

More information from the IDWR on how this might impact the Mountain Home Ground Water Management area and the local residents already living in the area. In addition, conditions put into place that will protect the ground water resource through monitoring and ensure that more water is not being used for green lawns in a high desert plain than the water resources can handle. I hereby acknowledge that if I fail 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 sent a copy of this protest to the applicant.

Mary Walsh
March 9, 2020

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