



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Western Region • 2735 Airport Way • Boise, Idaho 83705-5082

Phone: (208) 334-2190 • Fax: (208) 334-2348 • Website: www.idwr.idaho.gov

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
Governor

GARY SPACKMAN
Director

June 14, 2018

BIG WILLOW RANCH LLC
1 DIXIE LN
PAYETTE ID 83661

NORTHWEST FARM CREDIT SERVICES FLCA
308 SE 10TH ST
ONTARIO OR 97914

RE: Contested Application for Permit No. 65-23731 and 65-23741

Dear Applicant(s):

Enclosed is a copy of the protests filed against the issuance of the above-referenced application(s). The following are options available for resolution of contested (protested) applications:

- Direct contact with the protestant(s) to determine what is being disputed in the application and parties attempting to resolve the protest. Sincere conversation between the parties prior to initiation of formal proceedings can often resolve protest(s).
- Mediation through a certified professional mediator. Mediation can reduce the costs and time that are associated with formal proceedings, help to address non-water concerns, and fast track processing by the Department for parties reaching a mediated agreement. If you are interested in this option, please contact our office for details.
- Formal Proceedings consist of a pre-hearing conference and a hearing through the water appropriation statutes and rules process. A pre-hearing conference identifies the protest issues and reviews the resolution possibilities with the parties. If the issues cannot be resolved, a formal hearing will be scheduled.

Most protested applications for permit get resolved through formal proceedings. Therefore a scheduling calendar for the last two (2) weeks of September is included with this letter. Identify the days and times that you are available for a prehearing conference and return the calendar by **July 5, 2018**. Applicants are encouraged to work with protestants prior to the pre-hearing conference to resolve the issues. If you need additional information or need to discuss the process further, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Phill Hummer
Water Resource Agent, Sr.
Idaho Department of Water Resources
Phone: (208) 334-2190
Email: phill.hummer@idwr.idaho.gov

Cc: Travis Thompson, Barker Rosholt & Simpson LLP
Enclosures: 2 Protests (1 per application) filed 05/07/2018