

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 17, 2016

To: Transfer 80751

From: Michael Holliday

Re: Review & Evaluation of Sufficiency of Information

The purpose of this transfer is to change the point of diversion to an existing well located on the applicant's property. There are currently no water rights associated with the proposed well.

Authority to File:

The applicant is the current water right owner of record, and Power County taxlot data confirms the company's ownership of the place of use and the proposed well location. The application was signed by the president, Gary Gehring, who is authorized to sign on behalf of the company.

Water Right Validity:

Right 35-8899 was licensed in 1997, and right 35-8186 was decreed in the SRBA in 2002. Review of post-1997 aerial photography shows regular irrigation of the place of use. Forfeiture is not an issue.

Injury to Other Water Rights:

Other rights will not be injured by the proposed changes. The ESPA transfer tool was used to determine potential impacts on the Snake River. The model results showed that mitigation is not required because impacts were less than two acre-feet per trimester on each Snake River reach. The transfer application was advertised and no protests were filed. The watermaster will have the opportunity to review the application prior to transfer approval.

Enlargement of Use:

The proposed change will not result in enlargement because the total acreage, diversion rate, and volume authorized for irrigation under the rights will not increase. Prior to the transfer, rights 35-8186 and 35-8899 were being pumped together with 35-2261 out of 2 wells located about 2 miles south of the proposed point of diversion. A condition on right 35-8899 limited the diversion rate of the three rights to 9.33 cfs combined. The two transferred rights will be limited to 2.15 cfs in order to prevent enlargement. Right 35-2261 contains a condition explaining that it shares a point of diversion with right 35-8186. Therefore, right 35-2261 was brought into the transfer as an associated right in order to remove that condition.

Prior to this transfer the place of use shape file for each right was larger than the number of acres allowed. In order to guard against potential enlargement the shape file for each right was updated to more accurately reflect the authorized acreage.

Local Public Interest:

No issues identified.

Beneficial Use / Conservation of Water Resources:

No issues identified.

Effect on Economy the Local Area:

No issues identified.

Effect on Agricultural Base of the Local Area:

No issues identified.

Review of the application finds there is no clear inconsistency with criteria set forth in Section 42-222 Idaho Code preventing processing of this application.