



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
Governor

GARY SPACKMAN
Director

June 16, 2015

SPF WATER ENGINEERING
ATTN TERRY SCANLAN
300 E MALLAD DRIVE SUITE 300
BOISE ID 83706

RE: Field exam for water right permit 63-32103.

Dear Mr. Scanlan:

Our office has received your certified field exam for water right 65-22882. There a couple of issues that need to be addressed prior to moving forward with the exam.

Measurement:

In the field exam you provided a theoretical calculation and previous exam measurement for Well # 1 and a measurement for well #2 from the flow meter. The conditions of the permit state that both wells need a working flow meter, but you neglected to provide a diversion rate measurement from the existing flow meter for Well # 1.

Instead of supplying an actual measurement, you refer to the theoretical calculations made on the companion right for this permit 63-31628. In reviewing the field exam for 63-31628, the calculations were done on three wells with a 15 Hp pump, 3 Hp pump, and a 35 Hp pump. You state in your field exam that Well # 1 has a 40 Hp pump, so the pump has been changed since the field exam for 63-31628 was done in 1993. The field exam done on 63-31628 also states that the measurement device installed was not working, so no measurement could be made. The conditions on this permit require the measurement device to be in working order, so a valid measurement of Well # 1 should be available.

Idaho Administration Procedures Act (IDAPA) Beneficial Use Rule 37.03.02.040.04 states the following:

04. Unacceptable Measurements. Theoretical diversion rates or theoretical carrying capacities are not acceptable as a measure of the rate of diversion except as indicated in these rules and for some diversion systems where the flow rate cannot be measured accurately due to the physical characteristics of the diversion and distribution system.

In your field exam you have pictures that show the system has flow meters on both wells. Therefore, the system can and has been measured. We will need a measurement on this system to corroborate the theoretical calculation that was done. We can accept existing flow records that were recorded and dated by the Sorrento Lactalis Inc. staff or an independent measurement that was made on this system. Either will work.

Generally, we accept theoretical calculations if the well can't be measured or if there are special circumstances that prevent a measurement from being made. In this case, there are permanent measurement devices on the system that suggests that some record keeping has been done on these wells, or a measurement could be made fairly quickly by reading the existing flow meters.

Maximum Flow Rate Required for Commercial Use:

In attachment D of the field exam you provide the "Flow Monitoring Annual Summaries." In this spreadsheet you show an average flow of 509.89 gpm from the wells. This information suggests that the Well # 2 measured at 989 gpm is more than adequate to supply the water needed for this commercial use. This information also suggests that Well # 1 is only used as a back up well, and not operated when Well # 2 is in operation.

The records supplied in Attachment D show that annual records have been taken on these two wells. Please supply information that shows the maximum amount of water diverted in through this system needed to supply the beneficial use of this permit. This can be done through written records compiled by Sorrento staff or SCADA system records.

Once these issues have been clarified, we can move forward with the review of the field exam, and possible licensing of the water right permit. The IDAPA Beneficial Use Rule 37.03.02.02.02.c states the following:

c. If the Director determines that a field report prepared by a certified water right examiner is acceptable but that additional information is needed to clarify the field report, he will notify the examiner in writing of the information required. If the additional information is not submitted within thirty (30) days or within the time specified in the written notice, the priority date of the permit will be advanced one (1) day for each day the information submittal is late. Failure to submit the required information within one (1) year of the date of the department's request is cause for the Director to take action to cancel the permit.

To avoid advancing the priority date of the permit, you will need to supply the needed information by July 16, 2015. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,



Daniel Nelson

Staff Hydrologist

Idaho Department of Water Resources

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