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SEP 29 2014

Department of Water Resources
Eastern Region

To:

Idaho Department of Water Resources,
Eastern Region,
900 N. Skyline Dr., Ste A
Idaho Falls, ID 83402

Dirk Parkinson: Change of Water Rights Applicant
Transfer No. 79509
PO Box 326
St. Anthony, ID 83445

From:

David Read: Protestant
PO Box 12
Arimo ID, 83214
(208)254-9858
arimodave@gmail.com

Date: 28 September 2014

Subject: Transfer No. 79509, changes to water rights Nos. 29-13150, 29-2337, 29-2294, 29-2484, 29-2503.

Protest basis number 1: It is unclear as to whether the addition of the diversion is going to increase the water ground water use by 8.41 ft³/s or whether the existing water use will be maintained. If the former, the approximately 3050 acre feet of water drawn from the aquifer in six months combined with current use may exceed the recharge rate. Exceeding the recharge rate will have damaging effects on existing residential wells. Too, the additional burden on the aquifer may adversely affect local spring flows. If the current water use is to be maintained, then this particular part of my protest may be ignored.

Protest basis number 2: Change in the location of the water use may have adverse effects on ground water contamination and contamination of local springs. This possibility must be addressed and procedures implemented to identify, mitigate, and prevent such contamination. The use of 3050 acre feet of water converts to about 60 inches covering the 594 acres listed in the application in six months. This amount of water could leach fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides into the ground water, unless those chemicals are used with utmost care.

Protest remedy number 1: A water resources survey needs to be completed by the Water Resources Board, or an independent and disinterested engineering firm. The primary interest of the survey is to determine whether water depletion rates exceed the natural replenishing rates. Procedures then need to be implemented to ensure that these natural replenishing rates are not exceeded. Also, the spring flows need to be monitored in order to ensure that the additional use is not adversely affecting them either.

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Protest remedy number 2: Test wells located near the perimeter of the proposed water use need to be regularly monitored as well as the springs feeding the nearby headwaters. An independent and disinterested testing firm needs to identify the presence of common chemicals associated with farming. Also, the various chemical compounds associated with the natural decomposition and reaction to the soil need to be measured. If such contamination is found then the applicant will need to mitigate and eliminate the sources of contamination. A mechanism should be implemented to ensure compliance without the need for lawsuits and the like.

By undersigning I acknowledge that my failure to appear at a regularly scheduled conference or hearing on the matter that has been sent to me at my address listed above, may result in a default against me for failing to appear. I have mailed a copy to the applicants address listed above as well.

Sincerely,

David Read



28 Sept 2014