

MEMORANDUM

To: Water Right File No(s). 2-2262

From: Monica Van Bussum

Date: September 5, 2012

Re: Review of Application to Lease a Water Right to the State Water Supply Bank

PURPOSE/NARRATIVE: On May 21, 2012, we received an application to lease 2,376 acres of the above-mentioned water right into the Water Supply Bank for 2012.

AUTHORITY TO FILE: The applications were signed by Mark Noble, President of Grindstone Butte.

WATER RIGHT VALIDITY: The right was partially decreed in the Snake River Basin Adjudication in 2008, so five years have not elapsed since partial decree and forfeiture is not an issue.

INJURY TO OTHER WATER RIGHTS: No injury is apparent.

ENLARGEMENT OF USE: No enlargement is evident through the lease alone. Proper rental review should protect against enlargement.

This right is stacked with a number of domestic water rights, but there should be little concern about enlargement with those. However, it does at first glance overlap with one irrigation water right, 51-7155. I looked at the Backfile for 51-7155 and found the corners were not licensed under that water right. Grindstone Butte is looking to place the pivot corners in the Bank, so there is no overlap and no concern about enlargement.

LOCAL PUBLIC INTEREST:

Review staff has no information to suggest this application is inconsistent with the local public interest.

BENEFICIAL USE/CONSERVATION OF WATER RESOURCES:

The lease appears consistent with the conservation of water resources in Idaho.

DEPARTMENT STAFF OR WATERMASTER COMMENTS:

None.