

Keen, Shelley

From: Stanton, Jim
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2001 12:04 PM
To: Keen, Shelley
Cc: Stanton, Jim
Subject: RE: Field Reports for 47-7964 and 47-7969 (Twin Falls High School geothermal well)

Shelley; The pipeline carrying pumped water from the well goes north to the city street between the high school & Sawtooth school, then splits into 2 6" pipes according to a school official familiar with the system. He felt that about half the water goes each way, so my volume numbers are based on this. The measuring device is at the pump on high-school property, so as far as I can tell there is no way to actually measure how much goes to the pool and how much to Sawtooth.

There is no way to determine how much goes into the pool, showers, etc., from what I could tell. But this right is 100% consumptive as far as the geothermal aquifer is concerned. Since the water must be pumped, I assume that whoever controls the pump is not wasting tax dollars by running water when it isn't needed. So unless we want to micromanage this system, it seems reasonable to license the known usage. Some use in the pool building has been eliminated this fall, so future use will probably be somewhat less than past use. But it remains to be seen how this will affect operation of the pump.

I don't know why the use was so low in 2000. It never came up in the conversation. I have found out that the city pool was first covered in September of 1999, so has been open in the winter since then. Before that, it was closed from after Labor Day to Memorial Day weekend. So this probably had some affect on the diversion volume. The school usage would be highest in winter regardless of what the pool was doing. If anything, you would expect the volume to go up with full-time operation of the pool. And there has been talk that winter use of the pool is not paying its way, so may be cut back or eliminated in the future.

-----Original Message-----

From: Keen, Shelley
Sent: Friday, November 30, 2001 11:28 AM
To: Stanton, Jim
Subject: Field Reports for 47-7964 and 47-7969 (Twin Falls High School geothermal well)

Jim,

I have a couple of questions related to your field reports and draft licenses for 47-7964 and 47-7969 (Twin Falls High School geothermal well).

- The highest annual volume diverted from the well in the past five years is 112 AF. You recommended a volume of 112 AF for the swimming pool. However, you also say, "Water discharges into sewer system after use, or if pool receives more water than it needs." Your statement makes me wonder if the pool really needs the entire volume diverted. If the actual beneficial use is less than the amount diverted, we should license the right for the volume beneficially used. Is there any way to tell how much water was just discharged to the sewer without being used in the pool?
- You didn't provide much justification for limiting the school's right to half the flow. Based on your system description, it seems like all the flow could be diverted to the school. We should be careful that we don't license them for less than they need to heat the school. Is there a way to discern how much water actually goes to the school?
- Just for curiosity, why was only 47 AF diverted in 2000? That's a big drop-off.

Shoot me an email if you have the answers handy. If not, or if you think I'm missing something, give me a call and we can talk it over.

Thanks.