



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER
Governor

GARY SPACKMAN
Interim Director

November 30, 2010

GEORGE E SANTEE
PO BOX 2341
IDAHO FALLS, ID 83403

RE: Permit No. 72-7536

Dear Mr. Santee:

It was a pleasure to speak with you this morning. As I promised in our phone conversation, I am writing this letter to summarize for you the status of Permit 72-7536 and to inform you of the next steps in the process.

On 7/10/1997 Amended Permit 72-7536 was issued to you for the diversion of 0.9 cfs of water for irrigation use, from groundwater in Lot 8 (NWSW) and in Lot 8 (SWSW) of Section 9, Township 15N, Range 20E. Proof of beneficial use for Permit 72-7536 was submitted in 1998, and IDWR personnel conducted a field examination on 8/24/2000.

As I explained in my phone call, I have been asked to review the field examiner's report and other documents related to Permit 72-7536 and determine whether a license can be issued. To understand your water use, I need clarification of two of the elements of this right: the points-of-diversion and the place-of-use. For your reference I have enclosed a 2009 aerial photo showing your property near Shep Creek.

Well locations

During the field exam, the examiner found two wells and a three-tower pivot. However, I found Well Driller's Reports documenting 3 wells that were drilled on your property in 1996. Only one report (72-96-S 0036-000) describes a well for irrigation use. The other two reports (72-96-S 0037-000 and 72-96-S 0038-000) described the wells for domestic use. The examiner does not mention any domestic use in her field exam narrative, but she did recommend two wells as two diversion points connected to the pivot.

I have discussed this permit and the field examiner's report with Nick Miller, the watermaster for Water District 170. He had only one well associated with your pivot but he did provide me with a GPS address for that well. You will see that well location symbolized by an aqua-colored dot in the SWSW of the enclosed image.

Would you please confirm the locations of the other wells?

Place of use

The field examiner recommended acreage in excess of what could be reached by the three-tower pivot which she found in place in 2000. But she did not explain how irrigation outside of the pivot radius was accomplished.

The red outline on the enclosed image is a sketch of the irrigation I found and that outline encompasses about 30 acres. The examiner recommended additional acres in the NWSW which is beyond the reach of the pivot.

Would you please confirm whether the place-of-use should include additional acres in the NWSW and how those acres are irrigated from this system.

Capacity

The licensing process requires that I determine this irrigation system capacity. The field examiner did not record the operation pressure or the sizes and number of sprinkler heads. She provides some information about two pumps but not how they are configured to work as a team on this system.

You may have the pivot design records that would make that capacity determination easy for me. Even if you don't have overall system data, you may have pump manufacturer's curves or can provide me with the typical working pressure and the number and size of the sprinkler heads. I can make a rough calculation with the information I have, but I would prefer not to estimate so many parameters.

In summary, would you please provide:

- 1) Confirmation for the locations of the wells
- 2) Confirmation of the irrigation place-of-use
- 3) Design records or operation data for the pivot and/or pumps.

Please mail your response to me at the address listed in the heading of this letter. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call me at 208-287-4946, or email me at michele.edl@idwr.idaho.gov.

Respectfully,



Michele Edl
Associate Engineer

Enclosure

Layers

☐ Spatial Data

☒ Right POD

☒ 72-7536_pou

☒ Taxlots

☒ Right POU

☒ PLSS

☒ Township/Range

☒ Sections

☒ DRG

☒ Imagery

☒ 1987

☒ 1992 DOQQ

☒ 2009 1 meter

☒ 2006 2 meter

☒ 2006 1 meter

☒ 2004

