

PREHEARING CONFERENCE NOTES

Application for Permit #63-12347 Vermeer Dairy

From: J. Westra

Date: 05/27/10

Introductions

The conference opened with introductions of parties. Mr. Westra provided some background and reasons for the application filing originally in 1996. The application was part of the SRBA claim process that was to cover areas where claims were deficient relating to on the ground current uses. The application was then held to IDWR holding ground water applications in the Treasure Valley until Jan. 2008.

Protestant

The protestant had the following concerns in summary:

How much additional water will be taken?

Effect and depletion on other area wells?

Waste management with more cows?

Effect on aquifer water quality?

What additional infrastructure is going to be needed?

The protestant's main concern is to maintain water availability and the quality he has at the present (3 wells). Photos were presented regarding a pipe discharge point in the Vermeer pumping pond. The Vermeers stated, the pipe runs under the Dairy and drains several adjacent fields to the east of the dairy. It previously was an open drain ditch The health department checks this routinely. All parties express concern about the water quality in the drains and irrigation ditches.

Applicant

Mr. Hannula presented the application and ground water data regarding the area wells. The ground water aquifer is shallow and plentiful being recharged from nearby irrigation canals. Approx 50-80 ft appears to be the average well depth. Mr. Lawrence discussed that waste management /water quality issues are not part of the IDWR evaluation criteria.

IDWR

The process for injury becomes a civil matter between parties. This location is not a hot spot for water issues, and aquifer pumping level injury would not involve IDWR. Not true in the eastern portion of the state.

Closure

The protestant was satisfied with the proof/data presented and withdrew his protest.