

MEMO

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FROM: Jim Stanton

DATE: 2-10-2010

TO: File

SUBJECT: App For Extension of Time To Avoid Forfeiture, Ronald Hieb

I filled out this application for Mr. Hieb while he was in my office explaining his situation. He said that declining water levels have made it impossible to irrigate all his land, and I know from working with a neighbor there that this is a problem in that area. He said that he has hired a well driller, but is having problems getting the well completed; a transfer was approved last year authorizing the second well. The SRBA decree was issued 5 years ago come next June, so he is running out of time to get the land outside the pivot back into production. He told me that the land was put into a mitigation plan for part of the time since the decree, but Cindy Yenter told me that the plan was never accepted by IDWR; so there was no forfeiture protection under that situation. The request seems reasonable, and should be approved. Although there are 3 water rights on this farm, only 45-2499 covers all the acres; the other 2 rights totally overlap with it. The pivot covers 114 acres, so the request covers the difference between that and the 148 acres allowed under the water rights. Some of the 34 acres is actually covered by a homestead and various county roads according to the latest ArcMap photo, but I was told not to worry about that at this time; this could be an issue in a transfer, of course.