

Water Resources State Office
Idaho Water Center
322 E. Front St.
Boise, Idaho

RE: Application Permit No 63-33064
Lawrence and Kay Hansen

My first question would be is to ask why we are put into the position to bear any proof or be asked to make a decision on this application. We brought it to the Department of Water Resources attention who should make the decision based on Idaho State Code §42-111. As long as the Department and the Board continues to do nothing about it illegal use of ground water will continue until we do not have any ground water left. The Idaho State Code §42-111 is very clear when it defines the use of ground water as for domestic use up to ½ acre. There is no reason that this application should even be considered for this use. I am also asking the board to what degree law abiding citizens will be compensated when our domestic wells either dry up, become to shallow for our needs or other water problems occur.

This applicant has an ample supply of surface water for this crop but refuses to even consider it. When we live in a desert and have had reservoirs built for this purpose there should not be a question that the surface water is the only water source that should be used for their crop. What is extremely aggravating to us is that this applicant has proceeded on watering for 2 seasons and also proceeded with planting the rest of the acreage this last spring knowing full well they did not have a ground water permit.

The drip system they claim can only run off of the domestic well. This is not correct this is just the easiest for them to use. They can still use the drip system if they had a holding tank and filled it with the surface water and pumped it through the drip system. They then claim the water is dirty and full of debris which only means they would need to filter the water. The water board should not even consider this application and they should be told to use the surface water available.

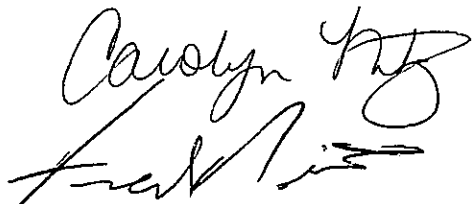


It is not mine or any of the other Protestants faults that the applicant decided to plant this crop and then turn around and claim that they didn't know or state that they thought the well had a permit. My thought would have been do your homework and find out first. The Hansen's thoughts were wait and see if they could get away with it then when they didn't they went to the Department of Water Resource and are trying to make this a hardship issue. It for one thing is not a hardship as this is not their lively hood and they brought it upon themselves by not looking into the watering before they planted the crop.

If we keep using our domestic water supply to water crops that can and should use surface water instead will eventually dry up and cause issues with the ground water. I again must state the fact that our Law Makers have decided that the use for domestic ground water wells is for that purpose only and the surface water should be used for watering crops.

If the Department of Water Resources and this Board continues to hand out domestic well permits for this purpose what will stop everybody else from doing the same?

Again this application should be denied based on Idaho State Code §42-111 and they should use the surface water available to them.

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The top signature is 'Carolyn Nitz' and the bottom signature is 'Fred Nitz'. Both are written in a cursive, flowing style.

Fred and Carolyn Nitz
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Meridian, Idaho 83642

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