

April 16, 2009

Tim Luke
32 East Front Street
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Department of Water Resources
Eastern Region

Dear Mr. Luke:

On Wednesday, April 15th, I had a conversation with Ernest Carlsen at his office, concerning the impact a letter written to Eldon Golightly is having on irrigation at my farm in Whitney, Idaho. He recommended that I write to you and review concerns that were discussed.

The Hulls of Whitney have first farm priority dated Feb. 18, 1893 on use of Spring Creek water for irrigation. Water shares held with Preston-Whitney Irrigation Company have been delivered through a section of Spring Creek since the company was organized in 1926. This long period of usage gives an historical precedent and legal right. In the past years, other farmers have also used Spring Creek to deliver their water shares from the irrigation company. All of them have now converted to sprinkler systems. I have tried to hook on to their systems, but they will not allow it because of the lack of pressure it would cause. I have explored every option and none are feasible or affordable for 31.5 acres.

Before I was made aware of the Golightly letter, I had contracted with a farmer to rent the farm for growing corn. He had also arranged for seed. If I am not able to provide irrigation water as contracted, I will suffer a yearly rental loss and be liable for the farmers losses.

Since Spring Creek has declined in water flow, I have had to rent additional water shares. Last year I purchased shares which used up my teacher savings of \$15,000 to satisfy the renter's need to irrigate. I am in good standing with the irrigation company and they have been most cooperative in delivering my water shares. They are in agreement with the only option I have to deliver water to the farm. They have a plan to reduce the distance the water will flow from their pipe to Spring Creek and my ditch to the farm. Spring Creek and my ditch are synonymous for some distance in the hollow.

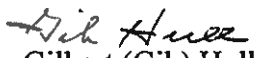
To the best of my knowledge there has not been any conflict or complaint about the Hulls water shares from Preston-Whitney flowing down Spring Creek. With very little water in the Creek from its source, my water shares only add to its volume, life, and usability down stream. We never use any more water than is allotted to us.

It is my hope, dream and obligation to keep alive the Hull farm that has sustained us, trained us to work, and given us spiritual purpose since pioneer times. I intend to keep the farm in the family if a crop can be grown each year to help pay taxes and expenses. Having irrigation water is key to the farm's future. The present method of delivery is the only option available for this years crop.

Your consideration, help and judgement will be greatly appreciated.

I am sending this letter by way of Ernie Carlsen for his information.

Sincerely,


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