



IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

August 4, 2008

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Mr. David R. Tuthill, Director
Idaho Department of Water Resources
322 East Front Street
Boise, ID 83720

RE: Regulation of Low Temperature Geothermal Water Permit 36-8094
Diversion of Ground Water at Pristine Springs

Dear Director:

At the July 17, 2008 meeting held in Coeur d'Alene, the Idaho Water Resource Board (Board) agreed to petition the Director of the Department of Water Resources to suspend further licensing proceedings for Water Permit no. 36-8094 until such time as the Board is able to conduct an investigation to determine the effect of the different diversion rates on the low temperature geothermal aquifer.

The Board proposes to voluntarily reduce diversion from the low temperature geothermal well to 4.5 cfs beginning January 1, 2009. The Board intends to divert water at the reduced rate for a test period no more than two years. If at the end of the test period or if the aquifer demonstrates significant recovery before the expiration of two years, the Board will agree to not oppose licensing of the water right at the reduced rate of 4.5 cfs. The test period will also give the Board opportunity to evaluate the highest and best uses of the newly acquired Pristine Springs assets, including the geothermal resource.

If the hydrologic data collected and analyzed during the test period demonstrates that reduced diversion from the well does not contribute to the aquifer recovery, the Board intends to file an amendment to its permit to reflect the water use as developed at the higher diversion rate. The Board also retains the option to request an extension of the test period should additional time be needed.

Sincerely,

Jerry Rigby
Chairman
Idaho Water Resource Board