

Keen, Shelley

From: Yenter, Cindy
Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2008 10:39 AM
To: Anderson, Hal
Cc: Merritt, Allen; Patton, Brian; Tuthill, Dave
Subject: RE: Pristine Springs Hot Well

Hal - we did discuss briefly in the transfer meeting this morning, the best way to record and authorize the heating use. I don't think we can add it to the existing permit. Shelley indicated that an application for permit would probably be the most expeditious route. With the Twin Falls GWMA geothermal restrictions the heating use could not be additive - all geothermal uses from that well would have a combined limit of 4.5 cfs.

I will need to investigate exactly what is going on before we recommend that the board makes the water right filings. I'll let you know what I find...
cindy

From: Anderson, Hal
Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2008 9:57 AM
To: Yenter, Cindy
Cc: Merritt, Allen; Patton, Brian; Tuthill, Dave
Subject: RE: Pristine Springs Hot Well

Cindy,
I agree that the hot well needs to be taken care of. We knew this was an issue from the start. However we did enter into a lease arrangement with SeaPac to operate the facility and we did not include any consideration of reducing the flow through the Tilapia operation. I do think that SeaPac could work around a 6 month time frame but one year would be better for them financially. I am OK with allowing them to use the 7cfs until our 1 year lease is finished in May 2009, and then if we renew for another year with the stipulation that the flow in the hot well will be reduced to 4.5cfs, however this is the Director's call. If the heating use is not included we sure want to add it. --Hal

Hal N. Anderson
Administrator
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From: Yenter, Cindy
Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2008 8:17 AM
To: Anderson, Hal
Cc: Merritt, Allen
Subject: RE: Pristine Springs Hot Well

That certainly makes more sense than cooling it prior to using it. That's what Allen had heard. I still don't believe that upper pond is covered by any water right since the claim was disallowed. I also had not considered that heating use was occurring from the well although that would be logical; of course that use is also not represented on any water right of record. I might be able to add heating use to the hydro license recommendation but it would have to have a combined limit when used with hydro / fish prop.

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Seems that the development of this hot well really got away from us and Pristine just did whatever they wanted to with it. Now that the State owns the property I feel we need to practice what we preach and get the uses properly recorded and the well in compliance.

C.

From: Anderson, Hal
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 1:29 PM
To: Yenter, Cindy
Subject: RE: Pristine Springs Hot Well

Cindy,
The way Ken explained it to me the warm water pond is where they dump the water after it runs through the heat exchangers they use to heat the houses and possibly the barn. --Hal

Hal N. Anderson
Administrator
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From: Yenter, Cindy
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 1:18 PM
To: Merritt, Allen; Tuthill, Dave; Anderson, Hal
Cc: Homan, John; Patton, Brian; 'Clive Strong'; Erickson, Nathan
Subject: RE: Pristine Springs Hot Well

Pristine had a claim for aesthetic use from hot water which was disallowed. The water in the cooling pond can't come from anyplace except the hot well - it's higher than the Alpheus diversion. That means the pond is probably illegal too.....

From: Merritt, Allen
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 1:00 PM
To: Yenter, Cindy; Tuthill, Dave; Anderson, Hal
Cc: Homan, John; Patton, Brian; 'Clive Strong'; Erickson, Nathan
Subject: RE: Pristine Springs Hot Well

This may be a dumb question...but as I recall the hot water is routed through a pond to cool it off before it is mixed with other water for the fish. Wouldn't diverting less hot water and decreasing the size of the cooling pond get you a similar temperature? I'm not sure what their desire is... a certain temperature or a certain flow rate?

From: Yenter, Cindy
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 8:57 AM
To: Tuthill, Dave; Anderson, Hal
Cc: Homan, John; Patton, Brian; 'Clive Strong'; Merritt, Allen; Erickson, Nathan
Subject: RE: Pristine Springs Hot Well

Dave, did you receive a reply from anyone?

Pristine Springs did file an application 36-8669 for increased flow from the geo well for fish propagation, which was placed

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on moratorium hold in 1992. I do not believe this application is approvable in any event due to the Twin Falls geothermal area and the management plan which appears to limit production from the Pristine well to 4.5 cfs. However, Pristine proceeded to expand the warm water fishery after 1992 without the approved permit, and since then have dodged regulation of the hot well by way of the hydropower permit 36-8094 which authorizes 7 cfs for power production. The hot water fish propagation right 36-7130 for 4.5 cfs was modified by transfer in 1992 to add the place of use of the present warm water raceways (the ap for additional flow was filed about the same time). Prior to 1992 the pou for 36-7130 was at the site of the upper raceways near the hot well.

Even though this source is not within WD130 and not under my immediate regulation, my opinion is that this well still needs to be regulated before 2009. From a watermaster perspective I agree that SeaPac should be given reasonable time to mature and/or otherwise move existing stock. However, not being that familiar with tilapia production I'm not sure that 12 months is absolutely necessary. Typically a spring water redistribution in WD130 affecting fish propagation is accomplished in two weeks or less, after notice to the regulated party.

Cindy Yenter
Watermaster, Water District 130
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From: Tuthill, Dave
Sent: Friday, May 16, 2008 6:16 AM
To: Anderson, Hal
Cc: Homan, John; Patton, Brian; Clive Strong; Merritt, Allen; Yenter, Cindy
Subject: RE: Pristine Springs Hot Well

Hal, thanks for making the contact with Ken.

What is puzzling to me is why the fish propagation right is not for a greater amount, if indeed the full 7 cfs of geothermal water is being used to grow tilapia. Why would Pristine Springs not have submitted an additional app for permit for fish prop for the 2.5 cfs of difference?

Allen, do you have an idea about this?

Dave

From: Anderson, Hal
Sent: Thu 5/15/2008 5:32 PM
To: Tuthill, Dave
Cc: Homan, John; Patton, Brian; Clive Strong; Merritt, Allen; Yenter, Cindy
Subject: RE: Pristine Springs Hot Well

Dave,

I just talked to Ken Ashley about cutting back the well to 4.5 cfs. As I had guessed this would be a significant impact on the warm water fish operation. He estimated that he would lose about 40% of his production capacity and the tilapia operation is their biggest profit maker. He said that if they did have to cut back they would lose a lot of fish. At a minimum Ken says they will need a minimum of 6 months to mature the fish enough to empty 40%, about a dozen, of the raceways. He asked if they could have 12 months to complete the first year of the lease agreement with the Board. Ken also shared that they can't cut back in increments as they have to shut down the system and replace the nozzle in the hot well to cut it back to 4.5 cfs and they only have a 4.5 and a 7 cfs nozzle. I think we should give SeaPac until May 1, 2009 in order to honor the lease agreement which was predicated on continuing the existing operations at Pristine Springs. --Hal

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Hal N. Anderson

Administrator

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From: Tuthill, Dave

Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2008 4:16 PM

To: Merritt, Allen

Cc: Anderson, Hal; Homan, John; Spackman, Gary; Keen, Shelley; Yenter, Cindy; Neely, Ken; Wigle, Victoria

Subject: RE: Pristine Springs Hot Well

Thanks, Allen.

Hal, John and others, do you have any recommendations for alterations of the draft before it is finalized?

Dave

-----Original Message-----

From: Merritt, Allen

Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2008 1:38 PM

To: Tuthill, Dave

Cc: Anderson, Hal; Homan, John; Spackman, Gary; Keen, Shelley; Yenter, Cindy; Neely, Ken

Subject: Pristine Springs Hot Well

Dave,

Attached is the letter you suggested I draft along with attachments. I do not have the attachment regarding the TF Geothermal Aquifer but I believe Ken Neely can fill in the blank. Shelley can add details regarding the power plant review if needed. Currently the licensing exam is being written up by Cindy.

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Allen << File: draft for Tuthill.doc >> << File: Proof 36-8094.doc >> << File: Proof 36-7130.doc >>

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