



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER
Governor

DAVID R. TUTHILL, JR.
Director

May 30, 2008

TSK Enterprises
255 Blue Lakes Blvd North
PMB 617
Twin Falls, ID 83301

RE: App For Transfer 72954, Don Aardema

Dear Gary;

Based on my review of this application to date, I have concluded that there are 36.2 acres of primary groundwater rights north and northwest of the existing dairy that can be dried up with a consumptive water use of 3.38 acre feet per acre. This will provide a total transferrable volume of 122.3 afa, which is short of the 135 afa requested. The existing water rights for the dairy provide 225.5 afa, while pump records show that 307 afa were diverted last year. The transfer proposes to add 3000 dairy cattle and 500 dry stock to this facility, so it appears that at least half of these animals have already been added. Is this correct, or are they still serving only the original herd that is covered by the existing rights? If they have not increased the original herd, then the proposed transfer will fall well short of providing the needed volume. If the requested volume of 135 afa will cover all their existing and proposed dairy use, 8.4 more acres will need to be dried up for the transfer; the transfer includes 8.8 acres of supplemental ground, so this is in order. But it does not appear physically possible to dry up the land under the first pivot west of the dairy, however, so we need to discuss this.

The enclosed ArcMap photo shows the place of use for their irrigation right (the heavy black line), and what they irrigated in 2006 from what I could tell (the heavy red line). This should be useful in deciding which additional land needs to be dried up; the land needs to be within the heavy black line.

Let me know what they decide. I will be available next week, and then on vacation the second week in June.

Regards,

James E. Stanton
Sr. Water Resource Agent