

Jerry and Gloria Keulman

4831 Skyline Drive
Eagle, ID 83616
Phone: 208-939-0925

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DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

Gary

April 5, 2009

DRT
Dr. David Tuthill, Director
Idaho Department of Water Resources
322 East Front Street
Boise, ID 83720-0098

Re: M3 Groundwater Application

Dear Dr. Tuthill,

I am writing to express my concerns over M3's Water Rights and a decision from IDWR at this time.

I understand that there is a big study being conducted that is expected to be completed the end of 2009. Because this is such an important issue to the valley, it would seem appropriate to wait for any decision until this study is completed and the findings have been reviewed by IDWR.

I have heard a recommendation that a water district entity be formed that will protect current individuals interests in ground water and surface water. I support that effort. It would seem to be an appropriate time to have a comprehensive look at other options for water to address the future growth of the valley and to protect the current water users before allowing a development to the magnitude of M3.

As I understand with the current growth and drought conditions our water tables have already declined. I am concerned that with the size of M3 we will have an additional significant reduction in water causing many of us with wells in the Eagle area to have to incur the costs of a new well in the future if ours dry out.

I had spoken to Ed Quires from Hydrologic, Inc., several times when he was conducting the study with the assistance of U of I students. My well was one of the ones tested. When I tried to get the results, I listened to a lengthy technical description of aquifers, and water tables and the flow of water that was way beyond my understanding, however, I do remember him telling me that M3's water consumption would not affect Eagle water—if anything, it would impact Emmett. Well, naturally I am primarily concerned about my water in Eagle and my well, but it almost sounded like an admission that there would be an impact, but somewhere else, so I need not worry.

From what I have heard, it appears that if M3 got approved, they would not be bound by any PUC regulations like Suncor went through. I am not sure I understand why they would not need to abide by the same regulations.

I appreciate the opportunity to express my concerns and I hope you will consider the recommendations of the North Ada County Groundwater Users Association to reject the M3 water rights and their proposed development at this time and until completion of an independent, full scale groundwater study and an established budget.

Sincerely,

Gloria Keulman
Gloria Keulman