

City of Weippe
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August 14, 2007

Kenny Walter, Mgr.
Empire Lumber Co.
Weippe Operations
Box 206
Weippe, Id 83553

RECEIVED
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IDWR/North

Dear Mr. Walter:

Thank you for seeking comments from the members of the Weippe city council regarding Empire Lumber's proposed permit to drill a water well at the mill site in Weippe.

Since 1968, when the City first attempted to supply the city domestic system, we have drilled six wells and leased one. We did not obtain enough water in two of these wells to install a pumping system in them. We have pumped three wells dry.

In 1974 we were successful in drilling into our current source. We appear to be in an underground reservoir, pumping approximately 400 gallons per minute during the summer months. It has been a very good source and we are very protective of it.

In your letter you state that the Grand Ronde aquifer is very large and has a large supply of water. This is true, however it covers a large area and is not evenly distributed as you imply. You state that you will be using 1500 gallons per minute for the log watering operation during the daytime. Even though we understand the reasoning for watering the log decks, a well of this size could affect all of the private wells within the Weippe prairie area.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to express our opinion.

Respectfully,



Norman C. Steadman
Mayor

cc: Idaho Dept of Water Resources