

Franklin, Keith

From: Haynes, Bob
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2008 7:37 AM
To: Franklin, Keith
Subject: FW:

From: Weaver, Mathew
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2008 3:14 PM
To: Rounds, Megan
Cc: Haynes, Bob
Subject:

Megan~

I am getting back to you regarding your upcoming transfer application package for Heyburn State Park. As I understand it, an existing well which functions as the groundwater POD for five of the park's water rights is contaminated. There is a "boil your water" order in effect at the Park until a new "clean" source can be brought on-line. Furthermore, there is a Park centennial celebration coming up this summer and your client (the Park) would like to have the transfer complete and the new well on-line by that time. In our phone call you asked me how long a transfer can take to process and if there are any means of fast tracking this process.

First the bad news, there is no way to legally bypass full review of the transfer or to proceed with the improvements without having an approved transfer in place. Now the good news, the Northern Region does not process a lot of transfers and therefore there backlog is not as significant as the rest of the state. I would recommend contacting Bob Haynes the Regional Manager at the time you submit your transfer package and discuss with him the ability to have the transfer fast tracked. In addition to fast tracking the transfer review process, Bob has the discretionary ability to do two other things that can speed up and shorten the typical transfer review process. (1) If you can show that the new well will have no new hydrological impact, and that the existing contaminated well will be taken off-line when it is no longer needed, Bob has the ability to waive the requirement of public notification of the transfer. The public notification consists of two consecutive weeks of advertising the transfer in the local newspapers, this process typically takes about 4-6 weeks from start to finish. (2) Normally a well drilling permit will only be issued in association with an approved permit, license, or transfer application (single family domestic wells do not apply). However, at his discretion Bob can issue the well drilling permit prior to having the transfer application fully reviewed and approved. This will allow the drilling and construction of the well to occur at the same time that review of the transfer is taking place.

I hope this information helps. It is a little different that I was thinking when we talked. I think the key item to take home from my email would be to contact Bob when you submit your application and explain the scenario to him, and include a cover letter with your submittal package explaining the situation and emphasizing the time constraints.

Give me a call if you have any follow up questions.

Thanks,

Mathew Weaver, PE
Water Allocation Bureau
Idaho Department of Water Resources
(208) 287-4914

PS: The flowrate (CFS) should be used to establish the fee for your transfer application. The volume (AFA) value

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is only used for those water rights that do not have a flowrate values associated with them, i.e. storage rights.