

MEMORANDUM

TO: Transfer No. 74415 File
FROM: Steve Lester 
DATE: February 12, 2008
RE: Evaluation of Sufficiency of Information Submitted

EXPEDITING APPLICATION TO RESOLVE WELL PRODUCTION PROBLEMS FOR LARGE IRRIGATION SYSTEM.

The transfer proposes to add a well to 12 combined irrigation rights to alleviate production problems from 2 existing wells.

The site is east of Mud Flat Road near Shoofly Creek about 6 miles south of Grandview.

Summary of Information Submitted

Authority to File: The rights remain in the name of the applicants. The applicants have authority to file the transfer.

Water Right Validity: The rights were decreed in September 2002. The application was filed a few days after the end of the 2007 irrigation season and just after the end of the 5 year period from the date of the decrees. ArcView aerial photos from 2004 and 2006 confirm continued irrigation during the 5 years after the decrees were issued. The rights remain valid.

Injury to Other Water Rights: Injury is not noted in this proposal.

Enlargement of Use: The use will not be enlarged.

Local Public Interest: Continued irrigation serves the public interest.

Beneficial Use/Conservation of Water Resources: The application proposes beneficial use(s) consistent with conservation of water resources in Idaho.

Review of the application finds there is no clear inconsistency with criteria of I. C. § 42-222 preventing processing of the application.

Discussion

This simple transfer just adds a third well to a single system serving 611 acres of irrigation. The rights do not authorize the use of low temperature ground water resources. It is unlikely that a proposed well of about 220 feet will encounter water greater than 85 degrees F.

The proposed well should be described to a 40-acre location since the exact 10-acre site is uncertain and not required. The existing wells can still be listed to 10-acre locations.

These rights were involved in Transfer 66126 a few years ago. That transfer was not protested. No special comment letters are needed for this new transfer.

Some shortcuts were suggested to the applicants for them to complete the application. The application is complete and understandable. The fee paid by the applicants reflects a self-determined limitation in the flow rate for the proposed well.

Summary

Assuming protests are not filed and/or other information does not contradict the above analysis, the application can be approved as reflected by the draft approval.

Note the condition about not authorizing the use of low temperature ground water resources. Also note the new well will be limited to 5.57 cfs as explained in the application.