

Edl, Michele

From: Pat Brown [pbrown@idl.idaho.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2007 11:00 AM
To: Edl, Michele
Cc: Kurt Houston
Subject: FW: lease agreement question

Michelle,

Kurt forwarded this to me for a response.

The land in question was leased to a Thomas Howell until 1999. A conflicting application for the lease was received at that time from Natural Guardian (Frank Vandersloot). Natural Guardian won the lease auction and has leased the parcel since then. Their lease expired in 2005, was renewed, and will expire again in 2009. Until 1989, the lease included 84.1 acres of dry cropland and 30.0 acres of irrigated cropland. Mr. Howell enrolled the entire 104.1 acres of cropland in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) in 1989 and, I would assume, no irrigation has occurred since then. Natural Guardian assumed the CRP contract when they acquired the lease.

I hope this answers your question, please don't hesitate to call me if you need additional information. I am leaving for Boise shortly and will be back in the office Friday morning.

Pat Brown
Area Supervisor-Eastern Idaho Area
Idaho Department of Lands
3563 Ririe Highway
Idaho Falls, ID 83401
(208) 525-7167 - fax (208) 525-7178

-----Original Message-----

From: Kurt Houston
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2007 8:57 AM
To: Pat Brown
Subject: FW: lease agreement question

From: Edl, Michele [mailto:Michele.Edl@idwr.idaho.gov]
Sent: Tue 7/17/2007 6:12 PM
To: Kurt Houston
Subject: lease agreement question

Good morning,
I pulled your email address from the Dept of Lands home page. I suspect that there is a more appropriate person to respond to my question but I hoping you won't mind forwarding this email to them for me.

I am reviewing a water right in the Henrys Fork area. In particular, this water right is on Strong Creek and was in the name of Edward G Howell. However, you may have Frank L Vandersloot as the current property owner. The PLS address of the property in question is: Township 9N, Range 43E, section 16.

In the course of my review of this water right and its ownership documents, I found that a portion of the irrigated property declared in the right is owned by the State of Idaho.

8/8/2007

MY QUESTION: Does the Dept of Lands have of a lease arrangement with Mr. Howell?

Don't hesitate to call me if you need more information.
Thanks.

Michele Edl
Idaho Dept of Water Resources
Water Rights Section
Boise ID
287-4946

8/8/2007