State of Idaho
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
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C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER
Governor

DAVID R. TUTHILL, JR.
Director

29
August ~~13~~, 2007

SENT 8/29/07

Lonnie Leavell
PO BOX 51
Gooding, ID 83330

Re: Well Construction fee

Mr. Leavell:

The Department is in the process of reviewing transfer applications 73515, 73516, 73517, and 73518 for water rights 37-22164, 37-22165, 37-22166, and 37-22167. These water right transfers propose the use of groundwater for irrigation in Section 31, Township 5 South, Range 15 East, B.M., in Gooding County. As specified in section 42-235, Idaho Code, if the well is to be used for other than domestic or monitoring purposes, the charge for the permit shall be two hundred dollars ($200). The requirement is further explained in the well construction rules:

IDAPA 37.03.09 - Rule 45.04.e. *The difference between the drilling permit fee required by Rules Subsections 045.04.b. through 045.04.d., as applicable, shall be paid when an existing well constructed on or after July 1, 1987 for which the lower drilling permit fee was paid, is authorized by the Department for a use which would require the larger drilling permit fee. This rule applies even though the existing well is not deepened or the dimensions of the well are not increased.*

Because the wells were originally permitted only as domestic wells the drilling permit fee was $75.00 each. The transfers increase the use of the wells to irrigation, which would increase the permit fee to $200.00. At this time the Department requests that the difference ($125.00) be paid for each well to appropriately match the use. The transfers include 18 wells; three of those wells are existing wells and are believed to have been drilled prior to the 1987 deadline. The fee is requested for the 15 well that have been drilled recently. The total expected payment is $1,875.00.

If you have any questions, please call me at 736-3033.

Sincerely,

Nathan Erickson
Sr. Water Resource Agent, IDWR