

MEMORANDUM

To: File(s) 63-7223

From: Cynthia Bridge Clark

Date: February 7, 2006

Re: Review/Analysis for Application to a Lease Water Right to the State Water Supply Bank

PURPOSE:

The applicant proposes to lease all of the above referenced water right to the water supply bank.

AUTHORITY TO FILE:

The applicant is the same name as the current owner on the Snake River Basin Adjudication (SRBA) claim and recommendation. A warranty deed was also submitted with the application indicating the water right was sold with the land

WATER RIGHT VALIDITY:

The water right is currently being reviewed in the SRBA. Comments on the application indicate the water right has been used as a primary source. NAIP photography from 2004 suggests the land was irrigated with a pivot sprinkler system. The corner pieces beyond the range of the pivot do not appear to have been irrigated. Infrared satellite imagery from 1987 indicates all of the land appurtenant was irrigated, though it is not clear whether the source of water included Nampa-Meridian Irrigation District water (see enlargement of use)

INJURY TO OTHER WATER RIGHTS:

Staff is unaware of any possible injury by the proposed leases

ENLARGEMENT OF USE:

The applicant noted on the application that the water right has been used as a primary source though Nampa-Meridian Irrigation District water is also appurtenant to the land. The field exam notes that the groundwater right is supplemental to Irrigation District water on a portion of the land. This was not clarified through conditions on the water right license.

Additional information was requested from the applicant documenting the historical use of ground water as a primary source. The information provided suggests the right has been used as a primary source for the past several years. The right is leased to the bank as a primary right. *However, acceptance of the right into the water supply bank does not preclude opportunity for review of the validity of the right in any other department process including the Snake River Basin Adjudication.*

LOCAL PUBLIC INTEREST:

Review staff has no information to suggest this application is inconsistent with the local public interest.

BENEFICIAL USE/CONSERVATION OF WATER RESOURCES:

The leases appear to be consistent with conservation of water resources in Idaho.

RENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:

None

NARRATIVE:

None.