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SEP 19 2006

WATER RESOURCES
WESTERN REGION

September 18, 2006
Request For Extension of Time (Permit No. 67-14610)
George R. Soulier
Jeri L Soulier
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In fall of 2005, I talked to a couple of local excavation contractors. Since early in May 2006, I have been in phone contact with all of the local excavation contractors known to me. I have talked to all of them (Bob Armitage, Dean Fairchild, Duane Fairchild, Ross Tarter, and Rick at McDaniel Construction) and had site visits by all of them. They were all informed of the October, 2006 deadline for completion.

I was told that all had rather busy schedules, but that I would be "kept on their list". Rick at McDaniel Construction seemed to be the most responsive and interested in the job, but advised that he was on a standby basis with some of the local irrigation companies and that he was "very interested in doing the job once he freed up some". I stayed in regular contact with Rick, who on June 14, again told me that he is still very interested "when his schedule permits".

On June 29, I called and spoke to Mr. Steve Lester (Department of Water Resources) concerning my approaching deadline. I expressed frustration with a lack of availability of excavators in my area. He advised me to keep trying, and to try to have some preparatory work completed if possible. I have been calling or stopping by every few weeks since then (except for the last week of July/first week of August when I was on vacation with my family).

After yet one more (August 11) attempt to get scheduled, Mr. McDaniel finally called on August 14, 2006 and advised that "he has some health issues that prevent him from taking this job". He suggested that I call Sam Shippey (a new name I had not heard of). I called that same day, and Mr. Shippey visited the following Saturday (his first opportunity). He advised that he could/would do the job, but that it would be a week or two for his equipment to free up from a job in the Crane Creek area.

During this most recent wait time, I have spent 6 hours clearing the pond site with a tractor and a track dozer. Elevation measurements were also made. I am not sure how to show this, but I can say that track dozer time (dollar value) is from ~\$70 to ~\$75 per hour.

Mr. Sam Shippey returned my follow-up call to advise that his Crane Creek job was taking longer than he anticipated. He then had his nephew call me. Mr. Abe Shippey called September 11 and visited the site on September 13. He was given approval to proceed on September 15.

Mr. Abe Shippey is planning to begin actual pond excavation upon receiving the pipe/drainage valve assembly (possibly later this week). He advised that this assembly is needed in order to start building the dam. Presently, we are waiting on supplier response.

To this point in time, Mr. Shippey has been responsive and has done what he said he would. Mr. Shippey is also aware of the October deadline, and barring any delays, he thinks he might be able to complete construction before the October 01, 2006 deadline.

At this point, I am feeling rather skeptical of any schedule proposed by a contractor, so I am thinking that it would be best to request an extension. I am feeling so skeptical, that, I don't think five (5) years would be too long to request.

I hope you will consider my actions as satisfactory for meeting your qualifications and that you will grant this requested extension.

If you have any questions, or need clarification, please do not hesitate to call me. Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,
George R. Soulier
208-550-0422 (cell)