



STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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MAY 23 2002

Department of Water Resources
Southern Region

601 Pole Line Road, Suite 2 • Twin Falls, Idaho 83301-3035 • (208) 736-2190

May 22, 2002

Dirk Kempthorne, Governor
C. Stephen Allred, Director

Mr. Earl Warthen
Albion, ID 83311

RE: Pomerelle Mountain Resort

Dear Mr. Warthen:

This letter is in response to our phone conversation we had on May 14, 2002 in reference to the Pomerelle Mountain Resort.

There are a number of issues we discussed and you were concerned about.

1. The change in use of water from domestic to commercial is under the jurisdiction of the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR). The IDWR should schedule a hearing at which time the public should have the opportunity to comment.
2. The United States Forest Service (USFS) owns the land on which the ski area is located. They are responsible, through their permit, that the project and any improvements are protective of the environment. I contacted Mr. Zimmerman with the USFS and it is his opinion that the planned parking lot will not impact surface waters.
3. The South Central District Health Department (SCDHD) is responsible for the wastewater drain fields in the Pomerelle area. Mr. Scott Arnell with SCDHD said you have been in contact with him and have provided him with additional information.

I appreciate your concerns and hopefully you find the above information helpful. Both the USFS and the IDWR should hold hearings as part of their approval process.

If you need any other information or have questions, please contact myself or Dave Anderson at our Twin Falls Office at 736-2190.

Sincerely,


Doug Howard
Regional Administrator

DH/pr

cc: Dave Mabe, IDEQ State Office
Representative Scott Bedke
Senator Denton Darrington
Representative Bruce Newcomb
Scott Arnell, SCDHD
Zeke Zimmerman, USFS Burley Office
Dave Anderson, IDEQ Twin Falls Regional Office
Norm Semanko, Attorney
Allen Merritt, IDWR Twin Falls