

Memorandum

To: City of Mountain Home Application for Transfer File # 72128
From: Manuel Rauhut
Re: Prehearing Conference
Date: April 26, 2006

On April 26, 2006 a Prehearing Conference was held at Mountain Home City Hall. See sign up sheet for the list of attendees. The protestants and their attorney John Simpson had the following concerns with the proposed transfer application and the associated usage of ground water from existing and proposed wells.

Aquifer drawdown:

Several protestants expressed their concerns that increased groundwater usage as a result of the proposed transfer would cause aquifer drawdown, which could impact their domestic, irrigation, and/or commercially used wells. Some protestants indicated problems that are already occurring due to aquifer drawdown.

Proposed well locations:

Several protestants questioned the locations of proposed wells because they may not be where the majority of the expected growth is to occur and that water levels have declined at a slower rate in the north part of Mountain home than in the south.

Who is responsible for costs caused by injury to the existing privately owned wells:

Protestants wanted to know who would pay for deepening, replacing, increased costs from deeper pumping level or what other mitigation options (city hook up) could be considered.

City Council Member Involvement:

One or more protestants felt that the City of Mountain Home didn't provide enough information about its plans to the community and inquired why there wasn't more discussion early on in the process and requested meetings with the City Council Members.

Expansion of the water right to be transferred:

Protestants inquired about the details of the water right transfer, including how the transfer would affect the priority date and if the proposed usage of the water would be an expansion of the water right to be transferred.

Conservation Options:

One Protestant asked if the City of Mountain Home is considering any conservation options.

Water quality:

Several protestants were concerned with the impact on the water quality that may result during the drilling of new wells and also in the long term.