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DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

1-11-06

29-10121

Mike and Eileen Chambers
705 Toponce Canyon Road
Bancroft, Idaho 83217

Gary Spackman, Hearing Officer
Idaho Dept. of Water Resources
P.O.Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0098

Re: Transfer #71551
Hearing on Dec. 15, 2005

Dear Mr. Spackman,

We are writing to you as a follow up on the hearing we participated in on December 15th, 2005. If we had only known just what we were going to be exposed to and to what extent we should have been prepared our testimony possibly would have been more effective, however, "Hind Sight" is just that.

We had prepared a statement, which is enclosed. We did not read it at the hearing due to a certain underlying opinion in the room.

In listening to your summation, my instincts were peaked when you stated that reflecting on the testimony you had heard you did not see any damage to a fishery, etc. Mr. Spackman, I want you to know, prior to the water being diverted through the pipeline, this was one of the best fisheries around, which can be testified to by current residents. With these rights being put through the pipeline it has been destroyed.

We can appreciate your position in this matter and know there must be MANY similar situations and how difficult it is to go on site to see the destruction of fisheries and riparian areas, however, in this day and age it is significant to make sure they are not destroyed and to be put back and kept in their original healthy habitat for future generations. We do feel this has truly been overlooked by all concerned in this situation.

In addition, we do have deep concerns in reference to the State Representative, who not only represents the people but also must be above reproach. We are sure he does not want to be part of anything illegal and possibly it's been a misunderstanding to take excess water at the onset of the irrigation season through the pipeline and am sure he'd prefer to participate in restoring rather than ruining a productive fishery and riparian area.

Our sentiments are, especially after we were told "You just don't understand how it's done here" maybe it's time it be done legally and not selfishly but for the good of all, not just a few.

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Sincerely,



Mike and Eileen Chambers

Cc:

Mr. Luke/IDWR

Ms. Wolfley/Atty.

Mr. Foster/Atty.

Mr. Monson

(Dept. of Justice)

Environmental and Ntl. Res. Div.