

State of Idaho
Department of Water Resources

RECOMMENDATION OF WATERMASTER

Application No: Permit 36-16364
Water Right No:
Applicant Name: Minidoka County Fire Protection District

Watermaster's Recommendation:

- a) ☐ I do not oppose approval of this application
- b) ☒ I do not oppose approval of this application if it is conditioned as follows:

Water district 130 jurisdiction
01P "after specific notification"
right does not authorize irrigation or any consumptive uses other than fighting fires

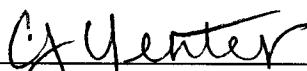
- c) ☐ I oppose approval of this application(s) for the following reasons:

- d) ☒ Additional comment:

I believe this application is appropriate to authorize the construction of the pod and the storage facility for fire protection water, since most of the water is intended to be diverted in advance of the actual need. However, I am concerned over placing a volume limitation on Fire Protection Storage, as this would limit the use of the facility and/or set the stage for license violations. Treated strictly as off-line storage, wouldn't a storage volume imply an annual fill limitation? We don't want to do that. An annual volume of only 0.1 af is only 3 fills at 10,000 gallons each. There's a good chance they will fight more than three fires a year. It would be better to just call it Fire Protection and limit the daily diversions to 0.04cfs/2500gpd. That way they can fill when needed, and daily if necessary. I'm comfortable with viewing this not as storage, but simply as "any other use" under 42-111B. Because of the intended use, it should be granted some of the same latitude as municipal uses. Furthermore, why don't we just issue this as a municipal right? That way, daily rate and volume wouldn't be an issue, provided the uses of the water are strictly limited. Couldn't a fire district be qualified as a municipal provider?

Dated: August 18, 2005

Water District 130


Cindy J. Yepter, Watermaster