

SOUTH BOISE WATER COMPANY

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April 13, 2005

Ms. Cynthia Clark
ID Dept. of Water Resources
Fax 287-6700

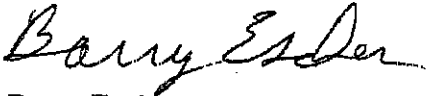
Dear Ms. Clark:

I am writing to you to explain the use of water in the South Boise Water Company system. As I understand it, the Department is asking for an explanation of the fact that South Boise calculates 360 acre feet as used by a diversion of 1 cfs for the season, as opposed to the department standard of 225 acre feet, based on 4.5 acre feet applied to 50 acres

There are several factors that make our system less than 100% efficient. The first is that our system serves bottomland with several old river meanders. These meanders have rocky soil, which is highly porous. This requires more water, especially to flood irrigate. The second is that our water is delivered through small sublaterals that go by people's yards. In order for there to be sufficient water to serve each person in a timely fashion, extra water is kept in the sublaterals which then runs out the end most of the time. This water serves as a cushion for variable usage patterns and to provide sufficient head to reach certain properties. The third is insensible loss. The major cause of this is seepage from our ditches into porous soil. Lesser problems are evaporation and transpiration from trees growing along our ditches.

I hope this answers your question. If I can provide any more information, please contact me.

Sincerely,


Barry Eschen
President