

MEMORANDUM

Date: February 18, 2003
To: Water Right File 63-12275
From: S. Keen *SK*
Re: Licensing Review

Licensing review and data entry by S. Keen on 1/22/2003.

PLACE OF USE

The field examiner recommended 20.1 acres of irrigation based on the size of the subdivision and an estimate that 85% of the subdivision area is irrigated. When I digitized the place of use, I included the lots and excluded the common areas and the roadways, and I found an area of 15.7 acres. Because approximately 75% of each lot is yard and landscaping, I recommend issuing the license for 11.8 acres, which is 75% of 15.7. This would be consistent with allowing 0.16 acres per lot. An average lot in the subdivision is about 0.21 acres.

DIVERSION RATE

The recommended diversion rate of 0.40 cfs exceeds the statutory standard of 0.02 cfs per acre. However, the larger rate per acre is not unreasonable because the right holder has voluntarily reduced its pumping time to twelve hours per day to make its operation more efficient. The reduced hours of pumping means that the same volume of water needs to be applied more quickly. This mode of operation is akin to the irrigation of public areas, such as parks and school grounds, where larger rates per acre are allowed so that irrigation does not have to occur during the hours the area is occupied.