

To Whom it may concern.

I respectfully submit to you. facts concerning our water right 45-0733. With a priority Date of Jan. 19, 1978. Upon returning from action on Okinawa during WWII I purchased my home place of 90 acres and soon thereafter purchased the 70 acres across the road. Both of these places were served by the Minidoka Irrigation district, with a total 160 acre water right, dated Aug. 9 1912. These two places are located between the Gravity canal and Snake River. Due to the gravity flow of the canal, no rotation, and surface irrigation, farmers used as much as 9 acre feet of water each year. Sub-water soon made this ground impossible to farm, and water rights were relinquished on the lower ground with high sub., on March 15 1929.. Farmers did not feel they should pay water taxes on ground, much of which was under water. This left 48 acres of the 160 acres. farm-able, with the original water right dated Aug. 9 1912.

During the 1960's and 1970's, farmers in the area converted from surface irrigation to sprinkler irrigation, using an average of only 2 acre feet of water to raise a crop. Sub. Water soon dropped below the surface, leaving about 100 acres of our farm without water. Minidoka Irrigation District would not allow us to reclaim our original water rights, since they would have to add Construction costs of Minidoke Dam. which was not paid during the high sub years, and which would have made it somewhat cost prohibitive. We now had only one option to irrigate our 100 acres. and this was to drill a well. We applied and received a permit 45-7333, approved for 3.09 C.F.S. for 154 acres with a priority date of Jan. 19 1978. The static water level was 5 ft. and to save money we only put down 25 ft. of turbine and a 40 HP pump. This served 5 wheel lines and one hand line delivering over 1000 G. P. M. We tried many times to get Water Resources to measure the flow, and they always seemed too busy, however we felt that the 3.09 C.F.S. was adequate for the approved 154.5 acres, and the 2 Acre feet. This system served us well until the water table dropped to a static level of 15 ft. and the pump started drawing air. It was apparently at this time that Water Resources measured the flow rate and came up with .55 C.F.S. They never contacted us with their reading. During this emergency, we borrowed a 40 H.P pump from my brother Bruce, and used Minidoka Irrigation District water to finish our crops. We called Gale Stayley of Vertiline Pump in Twin Falls, and were informed, they could not lower our pump, due to a crooked hole and fractured lava.

We applied to Water Resources and received a Water Right License 45-07333, dated April 25 1990, with the same priority date as the old well, Jan 19 1978. We drilled a new well 100 ft. east and sealed off the abandoned well.

We believe that this replacement well should have the same priority date as the abandoned well, which was Jan 19 1978. We express appreciation to Water Resources for their efforts in increasing our flow rate to 1.76 C.F.S. based on our records, however we feel that this total flow rate should have a priority date of 1978. Power records from South Side Lines, confirms the fact that a 40 H.P. pump had been servicing our 5 wheel lines continually since 1978. We finally have to ask the question---Why would we use a 40 HP pump drawing 52 Amps to deliver .55 CFS, or 241 GPM. when a 10 HP drawing 14 amps would deliver the same flow rate. We have to conclude that .55 CFS was definitely a faulty reading. or that the system was drawing air, or only one wheel line was operating. Had we been contacted at the time we may have been able to identify the problem.

We submit this information, to be placed in our file, and available concerning our water right.




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ONE FLAG



ONE HEART



ONE NATION

— E V E R M O R E —

P.S.

If you have
any questions
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