



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Western Region, 2735 Airport Way, Boise, Idaho 83705-5082 - (208) 334-2190

FAX (208) 334-2348

September 3, 2003

DIRK KEMPTHORNE
Governor

KARL J. DREHER
Director

CARLA STARKEY
4660 N MERIDIAN ROAD
MERIDIAN ID 83642

RE: APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER FOR WATER RIGHT 63-31537

Dear Ms. Starkey:

I received your letter dated 8/27/2003 requesting that your application for transfer be expedited. I have attached your letter to the file and earmarked the transfer to be expedited. Unfortunately, there is a severe backlog of transfers and a waiting list of applicants also needing their transfers processed as soon as possible. Many of these applicants are businesspersons whose financial well-being depends on these applications being processed quickly. I will do everything in my power to push your transfer through the system as quickly as possible.

Once your application makes it to through our current backlog of pending transfers, the standard processing time will vary. I will review your transfer to determine if it has been completed properly and to determine if any additional information will be needed to show that your proposal will not harm other water users. Your application will then be entered into our computer system and forwarded electronically to our State Office staff. Our State Office staff reviews current standards and assist us with conditioning your transfer to prevent harm to other water users and to protect the water resource. The time frame for reviewing a transfer can vary from a few weeks to several months depending on the complexity of the application, the backlog of transfers at our State Office, and the amount of additional information needed to make our decision.

After the review is complete your application will be advertised. We are required to follow specific procedures to correctly advertise your application. The minimum time it takes to advertise an application is generally 6-weeks to 8-weeks. This depends on the newspaper and when the application was submitted for advertising.

If your application is not protested it generally takes a couple of weeks to send the files to our State Office and have them prepare the final approval/denial documents. On those rare occasions when everything works perfectly, it takes 3 to 4 months to process a transfer from the time the review process begins. This does not include the time the transfer spent in the backlog waiting to be processed. Your transfer seems fairly simple, so I am hoping that it will make it through the review process fairly quickly. However, we are still looking at several months before the transfer process will be completed.

I would like to apologize for the amount of time it takes to process a transfer, but we are required to follow the laws set forth in the Idaho Code to prevent harm to other water users and this precious resource. Our agency has been working for several years to find ways to shorten the processing time for these types of applications. The best I can offer you at this point is that I will give you my best effort to get your application and the other applications under my review through the process as quickly as possible.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at the above address.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel A. Nelson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Daniel A. Nelson
Sr. Water Right Agent