

## State of Idaho DEPARTMENT OF WA

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SOUTHERN REGION

Date # of pages ▶ ¬
From Allen Mercita
Co.
Phone #
Fax #

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RNE

DIRECTUR

Dave Sunberg, Watermaster District 43-B PO Box 1 Malta, ID 83342

RE: Roscoe Ward Call

Dear Dave:

July 26, 2000

Our office has received the attached letter from Roscoe Ward requesting assistance in getting his water delivered on Raft River. Delivery of the Ward water may hinge on regulation of groundwater required to be injected into Reed Springs by Steed\* under license 43-07086.

\*Our office has recently processed a change of ownership from Steed to RHL Financial Inc., 2325-A Renaissance Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89119. I do not know who currently operates the farm but earlier this summer I visited the farm and Steeds resided at the farm at that time.

You are authorized to regulate flows from groundwater through a pipeline above the spring to inject water into the spring to replace water depleted in Reed Springs due to pumpage of groundwater. As you know this matter has been an issue for several years. (Reference attached letters and memos) From past correspondence it can be seen efforts to resolve this matter by agreement have been made but to my knowledge no formal agreement has been made.

To respond to delivery calls on Raft River below Reed Springs you are directed to:

- -Regulate the pipeline from wells operated by RHL (Steed) to replace water depleted due to pumpage of groundwater. Water from the pipeline is to be injected into the head of the spring in such an amount as you determine to be reasonable to augment the current spring flow. You may lock the valve on the pipeline if you deem it necessary.
- -To assist in your regulation the operator of the RHL (Steed) property is required to maintain to the department's and your satisfaction the weir below the small reservoir on Reed Springs. The weir is to be use by you to regulate the augmented flows. Absent an agreement, I recommend that the flow you observed at Reed Springs this spring prior to pumping of groundwater be considered in your determination of what is reasonable.
- -If it is determined that augmented flows from the spring do not directly flow to downstream users (the flow sinks before diversion), then flow augmentation may cease for the season.

Please immediately look into this matter to see if Mr. Ward can be delivered water. If you need further direction or see the need for a meeting between parties I will be available after Monday of next week for a site visit.

Sincerely,

Allen Merritt, PE

Southern Region Manager

CC: Gary Steed, PO Box 127, Almo ID 83312

Roscoe Ward, PO Box 108, Almo ID 83312

RHL Financial Inc