

State of Idano DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1301 North Orchard Street, P.O. Box 83720, Boise, Idaho 83720-0098

Phone: (208) 327-7900 FAX: (208) 327-7866

March 12, 1999

DIRK KEMPTHORNE GOVERNOR

> KARL J. DREHER DIRECTOR

FRANK ERWIN 2628 S 975 E HAGERMAN ID 83332

RE:

Minimum streamflow requirements at Branchflower Hydropower facility

Dear Frank:

Enclosed is a letter to Dan Yore, responding to a question regarding pool elevation at the Branchflower Hydropower diversion on Billingsley Creek.

I have enclosed copies of the Branchflower rights, which require that a variable minimum streamflow be maintained in the Billingsley Creek channel between the Branchflower (formerly TroutCo) diversion and the power plant outflow. Mr. Yore indicated he was not certain whether Branchflower is complying with the minimum flow condition. I am concerned that the possible increase in elevation of the pool may be the result of insufficient bypass flows.

Would you please investigate compliance with the minimum streamflow condition at the Branchflower diversion? If there is adequate bypass flow in the channel (35 cfs for this period) then you do not need to take any other action. If there is no bypass or if bypass flows are too low, Mr. Branchflower must be notified and given the opportunity to correct the situation.

Please look into this within the next week if you can, and let me know the results of your investigation. My phone number is 208-327-5406. I will be out of the office the week of March 22, and you may contact Tim Luke at 208-327-7897 in my absence. Let either of us know if we can assist you in any way.

Sincerely.

Cindy Hodges

Sr. Water Resource Agent Water Distribution Section

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