

Stanton, Jim

From: Keen, Shelley
Sent: Monday, December 02, 2002 8:05 AM
To: Stanton, Jim
Subject: RE: Licensing of Permit 47-7829, Miracle Hot Springs Resort

Jim,

I know that when Norm reviews our draft licenses for the use of geothermal water in that area, he tries to be sure that we are not authorizing a volume greater than has been used beneficially. All our efforts, and the recommendations of the steering committee formed a couple years ago, are aimed at preventing expanded use of the resource and further declines in pressure and temperature. Therefore, I know Norm will look for some justification for the volume figures recommended. Without more details its hard for me to say if 601 af is a reasonable amount for recreation and aesthetic. It certainly seems possible that they are diverting more than really needed because doing so is inexpensive. Also, a rate of 0.42 cfs seems pretty high for the relatively small heating uses you've described. I think it probably deserves a closer look. Can you determine how much, in terms of rate, goes to each of the heated items you describe? My guess is that the houses need the most water for heating. Is App. Processing Memo #23 helpful in determining what might be reasonable? I am attaching a spreadsheet that has been used in conjunction with the memo. I also know that Allen has some experience with heating requirements. It might be useful to involve Allen.

Keep up the good work. It's very nice to have someone as conscientious as you are to work on these tough ones.

Shelley



GEOHTCL1.XLS

-----Original Message-----

From: Stanton, Jim
Sent: Friday, November 29, 2002 11:39 AM
To: Keen, Shelley
Cc: Stanton, Jim
Subject: Licensing of Permit 47-7829, Miracle Hot Springs Resort

Shelley - I have done the field exam on this system, and have questions about what you will accept for licensing. The system consist of an artesian well, booster motor and pump to increase pressure for some uses, a 6" mainline running about 10 above the ground before being buried. Numerous smaller pipeline comes of the 6" line to serve various uses. I measured the flow thru the 6" line with all other lines closed, which represents the sustainable yield of the well; they are using all the available supply for the various uses. This is a very complicated system that is designed to use the geothermal resource as efficiently as possible. As we discussed, the measuring-device requirement has been removed for licensing purposes.

I am recommending commercial and recreation uses at the measured flow (0.83 cfs) and the continuous-use volume (601 afa). The permit allows 0.42 cfs for heating, so I am recommending this flow and the resultant volume (they heat 4 homes, a sidewalk, 3 restrooms, 2 dressing rooms & 6 camping domes). Domestic uses (showers, etc) occur in 2 homes. Some water goes to a tiny pond for alligators. We have talked about heating uses before, but I don't see any way to get a realistic volume for the heating uses; some of this water may even be recycled to other uses. And I am just guessing on the domestic & aesthetic (alligator) uses.

I could spend huge amounts of time trying to get more information on this system, but I think it would not make any real difference in the end. The supply of hot water in this well is fully used on this property (they have a pending app to add uses), so how much goes to each use really shouldn't matter. They have successfully run this business for a long time, so apparently they know what they are doing. But I don't want to send up the exam if it is not acceptable, so please review this and let me know what you think.

Stanton, Jim

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RECEIVED

NOV 18 2002

Department of Water Resources
Twin Falls, ID 83301

Department of Water Resources

11-15-2002

RE: Water Permit 47-7829

Dear Sirs;

I do hereby request that the measuring-device requirements for this permit be removed. The geothermal water diverted under this permit goes in many directions through many small pipelines. It would be very expensive to reconstruct the system so that all the water could be diverted through a single pipeline for measuring purposes. The full capacity of the well is used continuously all year long, with the diversion rate being controlled by the amount of geothermal water available in the aquifer. We were able to temporarily route all water through the main pipeline so that a measurement could be taken with a portable measuring device by IDWR personnel, so the flow of the well has been determined.

As far as the measuring-device requirement for the points of effluent discharge is concerned, this would also be very difficult to comply with. All un-consummed water goes into Salmon Falls Creek at 5 different points, flowing through various ponds and swampy areas first. This helps to reduce the water temperature of the effluent, thereby reducing the warming effects of this facility on the natural temperatures of the creek. Having to discharge the water through measurable ditches or pipeline could cause hotter water to flow into the creek. A lot of time and expense, and degradation of riparian areas, would be required for us to meet this condition.

Thank you for your consideration.

MH Springs LLC

Nathan Olsen, Co-Owner



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NOV 15 2002

Department of Water Resources
Southern Region

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MAR 06 2003



State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1301 North Orchard Street, Boise, ID 83706 - P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0098
Phone: (208) 327-7900 Fax: (208) 327-7866 Web Site: www.idwr.state.id.us

DIRK KEMPTHORNE
Governor

KARL J. DREHER
Director

June 6, 2002

MH SPRINGS LLC
PO BOX 588
BUHL ID 83316

RE: Change of Ownership for Water Right 47-7829

Dear Water Right Holder(s):

The department acknowledges receipt of correspondence changing ownership of the above referenced water right to you. The department has modified its records to reflect the change in ownership and has enclosed a computer-generated report for your records.

Please note that as of July 1, 1996, water right owners are required to report any change of water right ownership and any change of mailing address of the owner of a water right to the department. Notice of the change must be provided to the department within 120 days of the change. Change reporting forms are available from any office of the department.

Please feel free to contact this office if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,


for Jeff Peppersack, Manager
Water Right Permits Section

JP:klt

Enclosure

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JUN 11 2002

TIMELINE OF EVENTS - B13

