

January 8, 1996

Lola Dawn Hernandez, Secretary
350 S 700 W
Blackfoot, ID 83221

WATER DISTRICT # 27
STREAM: BLACKFOOT RIVER

Dear Ms. Hernandez:

During the 1993 legislative session, the legislature enacted a new law which amends Section 42-619(9), Idaho Code and removes the independent financial audit requirement for most state water districts. The new law, referenced by Section 67-450B, Idaho Code (copy enclosed) identifies minimum audit requirements for all local government entities. Under the new statute, the governing body of any local government entity (i.e.; water district) whose annual budget does not exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) has no minimum audit requirements under this section. This means that any district which handles its own money and whose budget is fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) or less does not have to have an independent public account firm conduct a financial audit every few years as previously required by Section 42-619(9).

Please note that only the statutory requirement regarding the independent financial audit has been changed. Districts handling their own fund (i.e.; districts who collect and/or disburse their own funds) must still submit their own statement of the water district's financial affairs at the end of each fiscal year. As recommended in the Department's February 16, 1993 letter and the 1993 Watermaster Handbook, a copy of the financial statement may be submitted either with the annual water masters report or with the minutes of the annual meeting for the ensuing year. An example of an annual financial statement may be found in Appendix C of the 1993 Watermaster Handbook.

Sincerely,

Harold W Jones
Water Rights Supervisor

Enclosures