

COLEMAN, RITCHIE & ROBERTSON

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
156 SECOND AVE. WEST
P.O. BOX 525
TWIN FALLS, IDAHO 83303-0525

RECEIVED

JUN 23 1995

Department of Water Resources

JOHN R. COLEMAN
JOHN S. RITCHIE
THOMAS M. ROBERTSON

TELEPHONE (208) 734-1224

FAX (208) 734-3983

June 20, 1995

Mr. Tim Luke
Idaho Department of Water Resources
1301 North Orchard Street
Statehouse Mail
Boise, ID 83720-9000

Re: Water District 47-C

Dear Tim:

I have reviewed your communication dated June 6, 1995, regarding water measurement devices and controlling works for Water District 47-C.

I agree that the measurement of the streams upstream from any diversions and then at the point the stream leaves the water user's property will supply valuable information in the administration of the water rights in this district. However, it appears to me that one bit of vital information would be absent, and that is the flow of springs which contribute to the stream flow between these two points.

It is my understanding that in Devil Creek upstream from the point it crosses the highway, there are three branches of the creek, each of which would be measured. However, there are a number of springs from the point of measurement above the diversions which contribute to the system before the stream crosses the road near the Rolland Patrick home. It seems to me that if we are going to get reliable information, some steps need to be taken to measure these contributing springs, possibly by current-meter measurements during the 1995 irrigation season. With this information factored into the measurements in the stream channels, it appears to me we could arrive at more accurate information concerning the water use and consumption.

One other problem I see in the situation is that if Mr. Eastman determines from the water measurements that a water user is diverting and using more than his right, there is no means for him to adjust the rate of diversion or require the landowner to adjust the rate of diversion.

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Tim Luke

Page 2


June 20, 1995

With regard to the gates on the Devil Creek Ranch property which divert water from Devil Creek out of the cross-cut ditch to the Devil Creek Ranch of Mr. Patrick, it is my understanding that Mr. Eastman has been instructed to take water measurements, but has not been instructed that he has the authority to adjust the headgates to control the amount of diversion if necessary. It is my understanding that this is one of the duties of the watermaster, and he should be assured that he has such authority to do so.

I would be most happy to visit with you concerning these problems and give you any further input which I may have concerning this situation. Please call me if you desire to discuss this matter with me.

With best regards.

Sincerely yours,



JOHN R. COLEMAN

JRC/jlk

cc: John A. Bryant
Larry Heil
Preston Davis
Jack Eastman