

MEMO

FROM: Jim Stanton

DATE: 3-29-2004

TO: Allen Merritt

SUBJECT: Trent Anderson Wells

I have been contacted by a concerned citizen in the Basin area, who claims that Anderson is pumping both the two wells on his home place and the 45-2405 well in Sec. 28. Transfer 4384 was approved in 1994 to change the point of diversion for two groundwater rights from 2 existing wells to one new well in Sec. 3 (Anderson's home place). But the citizen claims that Anderson is pumping all 3 wells for use on his home place. 45-2405 covers land that Anderson no longer owns, and he filed a transfer several years ago to allow water under this right to be used on his home place. The transfer is pending in Boise, and I will be working to get it finalized at Anderson's request. The concerned citizen, George K Wells, 2073 S Poleline Rd, Oakley, ID, 83346, believes that springs in the Basin are being depleted due to over-pumping of the Sec. 28 well. IPCO records show that 185,000 KWH were used at this well in 2003, with an average demand of about 63. Mr. Wells estimated that the well now only pumps about 1.8 cfs; according to Corbin, this would be about 450 acre feet for the power used. The well on the Anderson home place, the only authorized pod at this time, pumped 623 af last year at the authorized diversion rate (720 afa is allowed under the transfer). The Sec. 28 well did not pump until June last year, and the Sec. 3 well did not start until July.

Mr. Wells said that 5 different people have come in over the last few years to complain about this situation, but nothing has ever been done. I told him that, with the new transfer so close to approval, I would be surprised if anything would be done now. But I did promise to notify him when the preliminary order was issued so that he could protest it if he wanted to. He said they never saw the second transfer in the newspaper, and I have been unable to find our copy of the file to see when it was advertised.

Do you want to do anything about this? Wells also complained about too much land being irrigated on the Anderson place, but I could not find Landsat coverage of the area to confirm this.