



State of Idaho
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1301 North Orchard Street, Statehouse Mail, Boise, Idaho 83720-9000
Phone: (208) 327-7900 FAX: (208) 327-7866

CECIL D. ANDRUS
GOVERNOR

R. KEITH HIGGINSON
DIRECTOR

November 10, 1994

John LeMoyne
Chairman, Advisory Committee
Water District 36-A
901A Gridley Island
Hagerman, ID 83332

Re: Water Measurement Requirements and Implementation

Dear Mr. LeMoyne:

You are probably aware that the 1994 Idaho Legislature passed legislation authorizing the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) to require measurement and reporting by water users of the water diverted under their water right. The requirement applies to all water rights, including ground water and surface water rights, but excludes small uses such as domestic and stockwater.

You may also be aware that the Department held public information meetings on October 27 in Burley and Jerome concerning implementation of a water measurement program. Notices concerning these meetings were mailed to all ground water and surface water right holders within Basin 36. The notices advised water right holders that Basin 36 had been selected as the initial area in which the measurement and reporting requirements will be implemented. The notices further advised that IDWR will initially concentrate on the measurement of ground water diversions but may expand the measuring requirements to surface water diversions as well. At the public information meetings, the Department gave some explanation for starting the implementation of the program in Basin 36. The program will begin in Basin 36 in 1995 and be expanded into other basins in succeeding years.

At the public meetings, the Department received comments which requested the inclusion of surface water diversions within the water measurement program. The purpose of this letter is to inform the advisory committee of Water District 36-A that the Department has considered these comments will include Basin 36 surface water diversions in the 1995 water measurement program for Basin 36. Surface water diversions both within and outside of Water District 36-A are included. Some 1300 to 1400 groundwater wells will also be included in the program.


The Department will be issuing press releases early next week regarding its decision to include surface water diversions in the measurement program. We wanted to notify the District 36-A advisory committee of our decision prior to any press announcements. The Department plans to send orders concerning

measurement and reporting requirements to ground water and surface water users in Basin 36 during the first week of December.

Finally, we wish to invite the District 36-A advisory committee to meet with representatives of the Department to discuss implementation of the measurement program at the water district level. Specifically, we would like to discuss the option of the measuring and reporting requirements being accomplished either through Water District 36-A or individually from water users. We would prefer to hold this meeting prior to December 1 in order to receive input from the committee before we send out the above mentioned orders.

Please contact me, Norman Young or Tim Luke at this office regarding a suitable time and location to meet with the advisory committee.

Sincerely,



Gary Spackman
Section Manager, Water Distribution

cc: George Lemmon, Advisory Committee
Cleave Lloyd, Advisory Committee
Dan Yore, Advisory Committee
Ivan Gustafson, Advisory Committee
Cliff Jensen, Advisory Committee
Deloris Jones, District Secretary
Southern Region