

**BEFORE THE WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT  
OF THE  
STATE OF OREGON**

In the Matter of Stage Gulch	)	PROPOSED ORDER APPROVING
2008 Annual Allocation of Ground Water,	)	ALLOCATION OF GROUND WATER
Under Order Approving Transfer T-6776,	)	AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING
Umatilla County, Oregon	)	

Hale Farms  
P. O. Box 110  
Hermiston, OR 97838

Kenneth H. Coppinger  
1225 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Hammond, OR 97121-9745

ORS 537.730 and 537.735 establish the process by which the Water Resources Commission may designate an area of the state as a critical ground water area. OAR Chapter 690, Division 507 implements the statutes and provides the Department procedures and criteria for the purpose of managing the ground water resource and evaluating requests for allocation of ground water.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING**

You are entitled to a hearing on this matter as provided by the Administrative Procedures Act (Chapter 183, Oregon Revised Statutes). If you want a hearing, you must file a written request for hearing directed to Ms. Juno Pandian, Manager, Well Construction and Compliance Section, Water Resources Department, 725 Summer Street NE, Suite A, Salem, Oregon 97301-1271. The request for hearing must state your grounds for disagreement with proposed action and must be received by the Department by 5:00 P.M. on September \_\_\_, 2007 (within 30 days of the date of service of this notice). You will be notified of the date set for hearing if a hearing is requested.

Failure to request a hearing by September \_\_\_, 2007, shall waive the right to hearing under ORS Chapter 183. You may choose not to request a hearing. If no request for hearing is received within the time set out above, or upon failure to appear at a hearing where one has been set, the existing agency file will be designated as the record in this case and the Department will issue a Final Order.

**AUTHORITY**

- 1) Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 690-507-0750 states in pertinent part that the Director issued an order on May 15, 1991, declaring the Stage Gulch Critical Groundwater Area. The

order described the exterior boundaries and divided the area with eight subareas for the purposes of managing the groundwater resource. The response of ground-water levels to pumpage in each subarea is largely independent of pumpage within other subareas.

- 2) OAR 690-507-0770 states in pertinent part that the use of water from the basalt groundwater reservoir within the Stage Gulch Critical Groundwater Area shall be limited to the sustainable annual yield. Water from the basalt groundwater reservoir in the Stage Gulch Critical Groundwater Area shall be used for irrigation only during the irrigation season. The irrigation season shall begin on the 1st of March and end on the 30th of November. The Department shall not accept any new applications for appropriation of water from the basalt groundwater reservoir within the Stage Gulch Critical Groundwater Area.
- 3) OAR 690-507-0780 states in pertinent part that appropriation of groundwater from the Stage Gulch Critical Groundwater Area is prohibited unless the water user meets certain requirements. A water user authorized by OAR 690-507-0810 to pump water from the basalt groundwater reservoir shall satisfy the following conditions:
  - Wells shall have an access port with a minimum diameter of 3/4 inch. The access shall be adequate to determine the water level at any time;
  - A water user may install a functioning airline with a pressure gage in addition to the access port.
  - A water user shall install and maintain a totalizing flow meter on each well authorized by OAR 690-507-0810 except wells authorized for irrigation of ten acres or less. The meter shall meet the requirements of OAR 690-507-0785.
- 4) OAR 690-507-0810 states in pertinent part that the method for distributing the sustainable annual yield from the basalt groundwater reservoir within each managed subarea in the Stage Gulch Critical Groundwater Area is as follows:
  - A water user who intends to pump water for any authorized use except municipal use during any year shall make a request to the Department in Salem by July 1st of the preceding year on forms provided by the Department;
  - The Department shall assume that municipal water users intend to pump a quantity of water equivalent to the average pumped for the previous three (3) years, unless the municipal water user informs the Department otherwise by July 1st;
  - The distribution of groundwater for any authorized use except municipal use shall be based on the priority dates of the water rights within the individual subarea;
  - In determining the amount of groundwater each water user is allocated to pump during the next calendar year or irrigation season, the Department may consider:
    - ♦ Requests for allocations received;
    - ♦ The sustainable annual yield;

- ◆ The limits of the groundwater rights;
  - ◆ The relative dates of priority, with preference given without regard to priority date for municipal use;
  - ◆ Historical usage;
  - ◆ Whether or not a water user is physically capable of pumping and putting to a beneficial use the quantity requested; and
  - ◆ Any other factors deemed appropriate by the Department.
- If pumpage for a particular year exceeds the sustainable annual yield for a subarea, the total subarea allocation for the second year after that occurrence shall be reduced by that volume.
  - If any water user requests more water than has been historically used, the Department may allocate less water than requested if, upon investigation, it appears unlikely the user will pump the volume requested.
  - If any water user requests less water than has been historically used, the Department may allocate more water than requested if, upon investigation, it appears likely that the user will pump more than the volume requested.

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1) Hale Farms is a senior water right holder in Subarea H.
- 2) Order Approving Transfer T-6776 is perfected under Permit G-7041, having a priority date of December 15, 1976, and authorizes irrigation of 125.6 acres.
- 3) The sustainable annual yield for Subarea H is 8850 acre-feet.
- 4) In 2006, 7644 acre-feet of water was allocated in Subarea H.
- 5) Flow meter and power meter data collected by Department staff indicate that 9075 acre-feet of water was pumped from permitted wells in Subarea H in 2006.
- 6) The Subarea H allocation for 2008 is reduced by 225 acre-feet to a total of 8625 acre-feet.
- 7) On May 31, 2007, the Department sent letters requesting water users within the Stage Gulch Critical Ground Water Area to submit their 2008 requests for the volume of water needed.
- 8) Hale Farms filed a request for water use in 2008, Stage Gulch Critical Ground Water Area, Subarea H, authorized under Order Approving Transfer T-6776.
- 9) Hale Farms requested 376.8 acre-feet for 2008 under Order Approving Transfer T-6776.

- 10) Flow meter and power meter records indicate that annual pumpage from the permitted well has varied. More water was pumped in 2006 than in prior years. Therefore, the 2008 allocation is for 230 acre-feet.
- 11) The use of water is limited to the place of use described in attached Order Approving Transfer T-6776.

### **DISCUSSION**

Hale Farms is a senior water right holder in Subarea H. The sustainable annual yield for Subarea H is 8850 acre-feet. Flow meter and power meter records indicate that the permitted wells pumped 9075 acre-feet of water in 2006. The Subarea H allocation for 2008 is reduced by 225 acre-feet to a total of 8625 acre-feet. The allocation for Hale Farms does not exceed the limits of the water right or the quantity allocated for Subarea H. Therefore, the 2008 allocation is for 230 acre-feet. This is consistent with OAR 690-507-0810.


### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The allocation of ground water for the State Gulch Critical Ground Water Area for the year 2008 is consistent with the requirements of ORS 537.705 and 540.505 to 540.580, and Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 690, Division 507.

### **ORDER**

Now, THEREFORE, it is ORDERED that 230 acre-feet is allocated to Hale Farms for the year 2008 under Order Approving Transfer T-6776 for Subarea H of the Stage Gulch Critical Ground Water Area.

Dated at Salem, Oregon this 10<sup>TH</sup> day of August, 2007.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jerry S. Rodgers, Administrator  
Technical Services Division

STATE OF OREGON

COUNTY OF UMATILLA

ORDER APPROVING ADDITIONAL POINTS OF APPROPRIATION

Pursuant to ORS 537.705, after notice was given and no objections were filed, and finding that no injury to existing water rights would result, this order approves, as conditioned or limited herein, TRANSFER 6776 submitted by

KENNETH H. COPPINGER  
75235 COPPINGER LANE  
ECHO, OREGON 97826.

135312  
The right to be modified, as evidenced by Certificate 53078, was perfected under Permit G-7041 with a date of priority of DECEMBER 15, 1976. The right allows the use of COPPINGER WELL #3, within the UMATILLA RIVER BASIN, for IRRIGATION OF 125.6 ACRES. The amount of water to which this right is entitled is limited to an amount actually beneficially used and shall not exceed 1.57 cubic feet per second, if available at the original well; NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SECTION 23, T 3 N, R 29 E, W.M.; 3960 FEET NORTH AND 1320 FEET WEST FROM THE SE CORNER, SECTION 23, or its equivalent in case of rotation, measured at the well.

This is an order in other than a contested case. This order is subject to judicial review under ORS 183.484. Any petition for judicial review must be filed within the 60 day time period specified by ORS 183.484(2).

Pursuant to ORS 536.075 and OAR 137-004-080 and OAR 690-01-005 you may either petition for judicial review or petition the Director for reconsideration of this order.

T-6776.KDD

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The amount of water used for irrigation, together with the amount secured under any other right existing on the same lands, is limited to ONE-EIGHTIETH of one cubic foot per second per acre, or its equivalent for each acre irrigated and shall be further limited to a diversion of not to exceed 3.0 acre-feet per acre for each acre irrigated during the irrigation season of each year.

The use shall conform to any reasonable rotation system ordered by the proper state officer.

The authorized place of use is as follows:

NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$	31.40 ACRES
NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$	31.40 ACRES
SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$	31.40 ACRES
SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$	31.40 ACRES

SECTION 23

TOWNSHIP 3 NORTH, RANGE 29 EAST, W.M.

The right to use water for the above purpose is restricted to beneficial use on the lands or place of use described.

The applicant proposes to ADD SIX ADDITIONAL POINTS OF APPROPRIATION located:

- 1) SW $\frac{1}{4}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SECTION 7, T 3 N, R 30 E, W.M.; HALE WELL #5 - 1420 FEET SOUTH AND 40 FEET EAST FROM THE W $\frac{1}{4}$  CORNER, SECTION 7;
- 2) SW $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SECTION 14, T 3 N, R 29 E, W.M.; HALE WELL #8 - 1350 FEET SOUTH AND 50 FEET WEST FROM THE NE CORNER OF NW $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  OF SECTION 14;
- 3) SW $\frac{1}{4}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SECTION 24, T 3 N, R 29 E, W.M.; COPPINGER WELL #1 - 20 FEET NORTH AND 1570 FEET WEST FROM THE E $\frac{1}{4}$  CORNER, SECTION 24;

4) SE¼ NE¼, SECTION 24, T 3 N, R 29 E, W.M.; COPPINGER WELL 2 - 960 FEET NORTH AND 30 FEET WEST FROM THE E¼ CORNER, SECTION 24;

5) NE¼ SW¼, SECTION 30, T 3 N, R 30 E, W.M.; BROGOITTI WELL #1 - 30 FEET SOUTH AND 640 FEET WEST FROM THE CENTER, SECTION 30; AND

6) SW¼ SW¼, SECTION 20, T 3 N, R 30 E, W.M.; BROGOITTI WELL #2 - 100 FEET NORTH AND 80 FEET EAST FROM THE SW CORNER, SECTION 20;

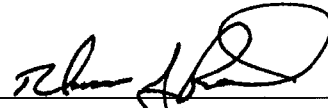
THIS CHANGE TO AN EXISTING WATER RIGHT MAY BE MADE PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS ARE MET BY THE WATER USER:

1. The proposed change shall be completed on or before October 1, 2004.
2. The quantity of water diverted at the new points of appropriation (wells), together with the quantity diverted at the old point of appropriation, shall not exceed the quantity of water lawfully available from the original point of appropriation.
3. **Prior** to diverting water from the new points of appropriation (wells), the water user **shall** install an in-line flow meter or other suitable device for measuring and recording the quantity of water used for all wells described in this order. The type and plans of the measuring device must be approved by the Department prior to beginning construction and shall be installed under the general supervision of the Department.
4. Water shall be acquired from the same aquifer as the original point of appropriation.

Certificate 53078 is canceled. When satisfactory proof of the completed change is received, a new certificate confirming this water right will be issued.

WITNESS the signature of the Water Resources

Director, affixed JUL 29 2003.

  
Paul R. Cleary, Director