

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

In the Matter of Cancellation of a Portion of a)
 Perfected and Developed Water Right Certificate)
 87526, in the name of City of Prineville, and) **FINAL ORDER**
 Offset of Impact for Permit G-16879, Crook)
 County)

ORS 540.621 directs the Commission to enter an order canceling a water right whenever the owner of a perfected and developed water right certifies under oath to the Commission that the water right has been abandoned and the owner desires to cancel the right.

OAR 690-505-0610 and OAR 690-522-0040 establishes the process in which a municipal or quasi-municipal permit holder, with an incremental development plan, may submit a request to use the cancellation of an existing groundwater right subject to transfer to offset the impact of a groundwater permit in the Deschutes Ground Water Study Area.

Findings of Fact

1. On November 8, 2012, the Department received an affidavit from Steve Forrester, City Manager, City of Prineville, 387 NE Third Street, Prineville, Oregon, 97754, stating the City owns and controls the water right evidenced by Certificate 87526 State Record of Water Right Certificates. The affidavit requests a portion of the certificate be cancelled.
2. Certificate 87526 allows for the use of not more than 0.65 cubic foot per second (cfs), from a well, for municipal use. The date of priority is October 11, 1950.
3. The portion of Certificate 87526 the City of Prineville requests be canceled is for the use of 0.349 cfs (156.6 Gallons per Minute (GPM)) from a well for municipal use with no reduction or change in the place of use authorized by the water right.

Evaluation of Offset of Impact for Groundwater Permit G-16879

4. A request has been submitted to use the voluntary cancellation of a portion of Certificate 22867 to offset a portion of the impact to surface water of Groundwater Application G-16900 (now Permit G-16879), held by City of Prineville, pursuant to OAR 690-505-0610(8) under the Deschutes Ground Water Mitigation Rules, and OAR 690-522-0040(1) under the Deschutes Basin Water Management Rules.
5. The voluntary cancellation of an existing groundwater right subject to transfer may be used to offset the impact on surface water of a groundwater permit issued under the

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 137-004-0080, you may either petition for judicial review or petition the Director for reconsideration of this order. A petition for reconsideration may be granted or denied by the Director, and if no action is taken within 60 days following the date the petition was filed, the petition shall be deemed denied.

Deschutes Basin Water Management Rules provided that the permit is held by a municipal or quasi-municipal permit holder and that the permit holder has an incremental development plan under OAR 690-505-0625.

6. The impact to surface water of the existing groundwater right to be cancelled must be the same or greater than the impact to surface water of the municipal or quasi-municipal permit. The amount of impact of a groundwater permit issued under the Deschutes Ground Water Mitigation Rules to surface water is the consumptive portion (mitigation obligation) of the groundwater use. Offset of the impact must occur in the same zone of impact identified by the Department in the permit.
7. The City of Prineville has an incremental development plan on file with the Department for Permit G-16879.
8. Permit G-16879 allows the appropriation of 12.48 Cubic Feet per Second (CFS) for Municipal Use and has an annual volume limit of 3682.7 Acre-Feet. This permit also has a mitigation obligation of 1473.1 AF in the General Zone and/or the Crooked River Zone of Impact. Use of water from Wells 1 through 6 requires mitigation to be provided in the Crooked River Zone of Impact. Use of water from Wells 7 and 8 require mitigation to be provided in the General Zone of Impact.
9. Certificate 87526 allows the diversion of up to 0.65 CFS from a well for municipal use. This right does not have an annual volume limit. The City of Prineville has requested to cancel 0.349 CFS, which is approximately 156.6 Gallons per Minute (GPM).
10. The Department has determined that the use of groundwater from the well authorized under Certificate 87526 and Wells 1 through 6 under Permit G-16879 impact surface water in the same zone of impact, being the Crooked River Zone of Impact.
11. The voluntary cancellation of 0.349 CFS is equivalent to a maximum of 252.7 AF annually. The amount of offset generated by the voluntary cancellation of an existing groundwater right is the consumptive portion of the existing use. The consumptive portion of 252.7 AF for Permit G-16879 is 101.1 AF.
12. Based upon evaluation of the request to use the voluntary cancellation of a portion of Certificate 87526 to offset a portion of the impact to surface water of Permit G-16879, the Department has determined that Certificate 87526 impacts surface water in the same zone of impact as Permit G-16146 and cancelation of a 0.349 CFS (156.6 GPM) portion of

Certificate 87526 would offset 101.1 AF of the impact of Permit G-16879 in the Crooked River Zone of Impact associated only with use of water from Wells 1 through 6.

Conclusions of Law

The Director of the Water Resources Department concludes that a portion of the right evidenced by Water Right Certificate 87526 shall be cancelled in accordance with the provisions of ORS 540.621.

The cancellation of a portion of Certificate 87526 results in the offset of a portion of the impact (mitigation obligation) of Permit G-16879 pursuant to OAR 690-505-0610(8) and OAR 690-522-0040(1).

Now, therefore, it is ORDERED:

1. Certificate 87526 is canceled.
2. The Department shall issue Certificate 88146, to describe the remaining 0.301 CFS portion of the perfected and developed water right NOT canceled by the provisions of this order.
3. The cancellation of a 0.349 CFS portion of Certificate 87526, as described herein, offsets 101.1 AF of the impact (mitigation obligation) of Permit G-16879 in the Crooked River Zone of Impact associated only with use of water under Wells 1 through 6. This 101.1 AF of offset may be included in the City of Prineville's incremental develop plan for Permit G-16879.

Dated at Salem, Oregon this 12 day of April, 2013.



Dwight French, Water Right Services Division Administrator for
PHILLIP C. WARD, DIRECTOR

Mailing date: APR 25 2013

