

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

In the Matter of the Proposed Water)	FINAL ORDER APPROVING A
Management and Conservation Plan for)	WATER MANAGEMENT AND
City of Aumsville, Marion County)	CONSERVATION PLAN

Authority

OAR Chapter 690, Division 086, establishes the process and criteria for approving water management and conservation plans required under the conditions of permits, permit extensions and other orders of the Department. An approved water management and conservation plan may authorize the diversion and use of water under a permit extended pursuant to OAR Chapter 690, Division 315.

Findings of Fact

1. The City of Aumsville submitted a Water Management and Conservation Plan (plan) to the Water Resources Department (Department) on December 3, 2014. The required statutory fee for review of the plan was received by the Department on December 19, 2014. The plan was required by conditions set forth under the City's previous plan approved on July 27, 1999, a final order issued on September 29, 2009, approving an extension of time for Permit G-10223, and a final order issued on February 27, 2015, approving an extension of time for Permit G-13679.
2. The Department published notice of receipt of the plan on December 30, 2014, as required under OAR Chapter 690, Division 086. No comments were received.
3. The Department provided written comments on the plan to the City on March 19, 2015. In response, the City submitted a final revised plan on April 29, 2015.
4. The Department reviewed the final revised plan and finds that it contains all of the elements required under OAR 690-086-0125.
5. The projections of future water requirements in the final revised plan demonstrate a need for 1.4 cfs of water available under Permit G-10223 and for 0.446 cfs of water available under Permit G-13679 to help meet the City's overall anticipated 20-year demands. These projections are reasonable and consistent with applicable land use plans.
6. The system is fully metered, except for one remaining meter on the drinking fountain and restroom facilities at the city park. The rate structure includes a base rate and volumetric charge. Unaccounted-for water is estimated at 14 percent.

This is a final 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 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.

7. The final revised plan includes 5-year benchmarks for the City to continue and/or implement the following water conservation activities and/or programs:
 - a. Install the last remaining meter to be placed on the drinking fountain and restroom facilities at the city park;
 - b. Implement a meter testing and maintenance program that includes the following elements:
 - i. Test well and booster station flow meters, calibrate booster station flow meter(s), and continuously log and trend booster station flow meter data on a SCADA system;
 - ii. Test small customer meters as needed and replace them on a 20-year cycle, or as required;
 - iii. Test/replace large customer meters on a 5-year cycle, or as required; and
 - iv. Require that all new construction must include a water meter;
 - c. Implement a program to conduct annual water audits;
 - d. Continue its program to perform leak repair and line replacement as needed, perform site inspections for meters showing unusually high water usage, and implement leak detection studies on a 5-year cycle, or as needed;
 - e. Continue billing its customers on the amount of water used, and implement a program to include the customer's billing history and a comparison of their water use against other water users on every water bill;
 - f. Continue the current public education program by providing annual Consumer Confidence reports, WaterWise school presentations, newsletters with water-related articles, and outreach to industrial facilities and the school district for pledges to conserve water;
 - g. Expand the public education program by updating its website to include information about water rates, water saving practices and procedures, leak detection, and water efficient landscaping; and
 - h. Continue to submit annual water use reports required under OAR 690-085 to the Department.
8. The final revised plan identifies ground water (wells) as the source of the City's water rights. The plan accurately and completely describes that, while the City's wells are not located within the designated boundaries of any critical ground water area, they are within the boundaries of the Stayton-Sublimity Ground Water Limited Area. Further, the City does not hold any surface water sources that are listed as being water quality limited or in which streamflow-dependent species listed as sensitive, threatened or endangered are present.
9. The water curtailment element included in the final revised plan satisfactorily promotes water curtailment practices and includes a list of three stages of alert with concurrent curtailment actions.

10. The diversion of water under Permit G-10223 will be increased and the diversion of water under Permit G-13679 will be initiated during the next 20 years and is consistent with OAR 690-086-0130(7), as follows:

- a. As evidenced by the 5-year conservation benchmarks established by the City (*as described in Finding of Fact #7 above*), the final revised plan includes a schedule for the continuation and implementation of water conservation measures that would provide water at a cost that is equal to or lower than the cost of other identified sources;
- b. The increased use of water under Permits G-10223 and G-13679 is the most feasible and appropriate water supply alternative available to the City at this time, considering that water savings from identified conservation measures is not anticipated to fully meet the City's current and future water needs, that interconnection with the City of Salem is a cost prohibitive supply option as compared to the use of the City's existing ground water sources under Permits G-10223 and G-13679, and that some of the City's other ground water sources have production capacity issues which could be offset by the ability to utilize authorized wells under Permits G-10223 and G-13679; and
- c. At this time, there are no known requirements for the City to take any mitigation actions under state or federal law.

Conclusion of Law

The Water Management and Conservation Plan submitted by the City of Aumsville is consistent with the criteria in OAR Chapter 690, Division 086.

Now, therefore, it is ORDERED:

Duration of Plan Approval:

1. The City of Aumsville Water Management and Conservation Plan is approved and shall remain in effect until **July 15, 2025**, unless this approval is rescinded pursuant to OAR 690-086-0920.

Development Limitations:

2. The limitation of the diversion of water under Permit G-10223 established by the extension of time approved on July 10, 2015, is removed. Subject to other limitations or conditions of the permit, the City of Aumsville is now authorized to divert up to a maximum of 1.4 cfs under Permit G-10223 (*being no more than 0.45 cfs from Lucas Well, no more than 0.95 cfs from Boone Park Well 2, and no more than 1.4 cfs from Church Well*).
3. The limitation of the diversion of water under Permit G-13679 established by the extension of time approved on February 27, 2015, is removed. Subject to other limitations or conditions of the permit, the City of Aumsville is now authorized to divert up to 0.446 cfs under Permit G-13679.

Plan Update Schedule:

4. The City of Aumsville shall submit an updated plan meeting the requirements of OAR Chapter 690, Division 086 within 10 years and no later than **November 15, 2024**.

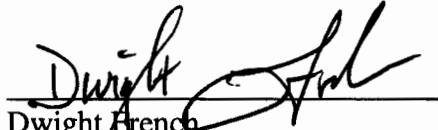
Progress Report Schedule:

5. The City of Aumsville shall submit a progress report containing the information required under OAR 690-086-0120(4) by **July 15, 2019**.

Other Requirements for Plan Submittal:

6. The deadline established herein for the submittal of an updated Water Management and Conservation Plan (consistent with OAR Chapter 690, Division 086) shall not relieve the City of Aumsville from any existing or future requirement(s) for submittal of a Water Management and Conservation Plan at an earlier date as established through other final orders of the Department.

Dated at Salem, Oregon this 15 day of July, 2015.



Dwight French
Water Right Services Division Administrator, for
Thomas M. Byler, Director
Oregon Water Resources Department

Mailing date: JUL 17 2015