

Water Resources Department

725 Summer St NE, Suite A Salem, OR 97301 (503) 986-0900 Fax (503) 986-0904

January 12, 2018

VIA E-MAIL

LLOYD AND LOIS PIERCY ECHO WEST FARMS PO BOX 249 ECHO, OR 97826-0249 goldencanyon@centurytel.net

SUBJECT: Water Right Transfer Application T-12488

Please find enclosed the Preliminary Determination indicating that, based on the information available, the Department intends to approve application T-12488. This document is an intermediate step in the approval process; water may not be used legally as proposed in the transfer application until a Final Order has been issued by the Department. Please read this entire letter carefully to determine your responsibility for additional action.

A public notice is being published in the Department's weekly publication, simultaneously with issuance of the Preliminary Determination. The notice initiates a period in which any person may file either a protest opposing the decision proposed by the Department in the Preliminary Determination or a standing statement supporting the Department's decision. The protest period will end 30 days after the Department's notice.

If no protest is filed, the Department will issue a Final Order consistent with the Preliminary Determination. You should receive a copy of the Final Order about 30 days after the close of the protest period.

If a protest is filed, the application may be referred to a contested case proceeding. A contested case provides an opportunity for the proponents and opponents of the decision proposed in the Preliminary Determination to present information and arguments supporting their position in a quasi-judicial proceeding.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>joan.m.smith@oregon.gov</u> or 503-986-0892, if I may be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Joan M. Smith Transfer Specialist

Transfer and Conservation Section

cc:

T-12488

Gregory M. Silbernagel, District 5 Watermaster (via e-mail)
Said Amali/akana, Agent for the applicant (via e-mail at Said.Amali@akana.us)

BEFORE THE WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of Transfer Application)	PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION
T-12488, Umatilla County)	PROPOSING APPROVAL OF A
)	CHANGE IN PLACE OF USE

Authority

Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 537.705 and 540.505 to 540.580 establish the process in which a water right holder may submit a request to transfer the point of appropriation, place of use, or character of use authorized under an existing water right. Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) Chapter 690, Division 380 implement the statutes and provides the Department's procedures and criteria for evaluating transfer applications.

Applicant

LLOYD & LOIS PIERCY ECHO WEST FARMS PO BOX 249 ECHO, OR 97826 goldencanyon@centurytel.net

Findings of Fact

- 1. On September 21, 2016, LLOYD & LOIS PIERCY (ECHO WEST FARMS) filed an application to change the place of use under Certificates 75838 and 89255. The Department assigned the application number T-12488.
- 2. Notice of the application for transfer was published on October 4, 2016, pursuant to OAR 690-380-4000. No comments were filed in response to the notice.
- 3. On April 19, 2017, the applicant submitted a revised transfer application.
- 4. On April 28, 2017, the Department sent a copy of the draft Preliminary Determination proposing to approve Transfer Application T-12488 to the applicants. The draft Preliminary Determination cover letter set forth a deadline of May 29, 2017, for the applicants to respond. The applicants requested that the Department proceed with issuance of a Preliminary Determination and provided the necessary information to demonstrate that the applicant is authorized to pursue the transfer.

Pursuant to OAR 690-380-4030, any person may file a protest or standing statement within 30 days after the last date of publication of notice of this preliminary determination.

5. The portion of the first right to be transferred is as follows:

Certificate:

75838 in the name of RON HOLEMAN (perfected under Permit G-7367)

Use:

IRRIGATION of 1.0 ACRE

Priority Date: FEBRUARY 14, 1977

Rate:

0.013 CUBIC FOOT PER SECOND

Limit/Duty:

The amount of water used for irrigation, together with the amount secured under any other right existing for the same lands, is limited to a diversion of ONE-EIGHTIETH of one cubic foot per second, 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.

Source:

A WELL within the UMATILLA RIVER BASIN

Authorized Point of Appropriation:

			-		
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
3 N	29 E	WM	27	NW NW	1070 FEET SOUTH AND 1180 FEET EAST FROM THE NW CORNER OF SECTION 27

Authorized Place of Use:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
3 N	29 E	WM	27	NW NE	1.0

6. Transfer Application T-12488 proposes to change the place of use of the right to:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
3 N	29 E	WM	22	SW SW	1.0

The portion of the second right to be transferred is as follows:

Certificate:

89255 in the name of RON L. HOLEMAN (perfected under Permit G-7367)

Use:

IRRIGATION of 1.8 ACRES

Priority Date: FEBRUARY 14, 1977

Rate:

0.02 CUBIC FOOT PER SECOND

Limit/Duty:

The amount of water used for irrigation, together with the amount secured under any other right existing for the same lands, is limited to a diversion of ONE-EIGHTIETH of one cubic foot per second, 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.

Source:

A WELL within the UMATILLA RIVER BASIN

Authorized Point of Appropriation:

Гwp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
3 N	29 E	WM	27	NW NW	1070 FEET SOUTH AND 1180 FEET EAST FROM THE NW CORNER OF SECTION 27

Authorized Place of Use:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
3 N	29 E	WM	27	SW NE	0.4
3 N	29 E	WM	27	SW NW	0.7
3 N	29 E	WM	27	SE NW	0.7
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,				Total	1.8

8. Transfer Application T-12488 proposes to change the place of use of the right to:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
3 N	29 E	WM	21	SE SE	1.8

Transfer Review Criteria (OAR 690-380-4010)

- 9. Water has been used within the last five years according to the terms and conditions of the rights. There is no information in the record that would demonstrate that the rights are subject to forfeiture under ORS 540.610.
- 10. A pump, pipeline, and sprinkler system sufficient to use the full amount of water allowed under the existing rights were present within the five-year period prior to submittal of Transfer Application T-12488.
- 11. The proposed change would not result in enlargement of the rights.
- 12. The proposed change would not result in injury to other water rights.
- 13. All other application requirements are met.

Determination and Proposed Action

The change in place of use proposed in Transfer Application T-12488 appears to be consistent with the requirements of ORS 537.705 and 540.505 to 540.580 and OAR 690-380-5000. If protests are not filed pursuant to OAR 690-380-4030, the application will be approved.

If Transfer Application T-12488 is approved, the final order will include the following:

- The change in place of use proposed in Transfer Application T-12488 is approved.
- 2. The right to the use of the water is restricted to beneficial use at the places of use described, and is subject to all other conditions and limitations contained in Certificates 75838 and 89255 and any related decree.
- 3. Water right Certificates 75838 and 89255 are cancelled. New certificates will be issued describing those portions of the rights not affected by this transfer.
- 4. Water use measurement conditions:

- a. **Before water use may begin** under this order, the water user shall install a totalizing flow meter, or, with prior approval of the Director, another suitable measuring device at each point of appropriation (new and existing).
- b. The water user shall maintain the meter or measuring device in good working order.
- c. The water user shall allow the Watermaster access to the meter or measuring device; provided however, where the meter or measuring device is located within a private structure, the Watermaster shall request access upon reasonable notice.
- 5. The former place of use of the transferred right shall no longer receive water under the right.
- 6. Full beneficial use of the water shall be made, consistent with the terms of this order, on or before **October 1, 2019**. A Claim of Beneficial Use prepared by a Certified Water Right Examiner shall be submitted by the applicant to the Department within one year after the deadline for completion of the change and full beneficial use of the water.
- 7. After satisfactory proof of beneficial use is received, new certificates confirming the rights transferred will be issued.

Dated at Salem, Oregon this 12 day of January, 2018.

Dwight French, Water Right Services Administrator, for

Thomas M. Byler, Director

Oregon Water Resources Department

This Preliminary Determination was prepared by Marcy Osborn. If you have questions about the information in this document, you may reach me at 541-523-8224 ext. 228 or marcy.j.osborn@oregon.gov.

Protests should be addressed to the attention of Water Rights Services Division, Water Resources Department, 725 Summer St. NE, Suite A, Salem, OR 97301-1266.

Notice Regarding Service Members: Active duty service members have a right to stay proceedings under the federal Service Members Civil Relief Act. 50 U.S.C. App. §§501-597b. You may contact the Oregon State Bar or the Oregon Military Department for more information. The toll-free telephone number for the Oregon State Bar is: 1 (800) 452-8260. The toll-free telephone number of the Oregon Military Department is: 1 (800) 452-7500. The Internet address for the United States Armed Forces Legal Assistance Legal Services Locator website is: http://legalassistance.law.af.mil