

Water Resources Department

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

June 8, 2022

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL AND E-MAIL

NEW FOOTHILLS PROPERTIS LLC JAY BALES, MANAGER PO BOX 189 ECHO, OR 97826

SUBJECT: Water Right Transfer Application T-13830

Please find enclosed the Preliminary Determination indicating that, based on the information available, the Department intends to approve application T-13830. 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 tamera.l.smith@water.oregon.gov or 503-979-9607 if I may be of assistance.

Kindest regards,

Transfer Caseworker

Transfer and Conservation Section

cc: Transfer Application T-13830

Gregory M. Silbernagel, District 5 Watermaster (via e-mail)

Molly Reid, Agent for the applicant (via e-mail)

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BEFORE THE WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of Transfer Application)	PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION
T-13830, 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

NEW FOOTHILLS PROPERTIES LLC JAY BALES, MANAGER PO BOX 189 ECHO, OR 97826

Findings of Fact

- 1. On September 20, 2021, NEW FOOTHILLS PROPERTIES LLC, JAY BALES, MANAGER, filed an application to change the place of use under Certificate 81319. The Department assigned the application number T-13830.
- 2. Notice of the application for transfer was published on October 5, 2021, pursuant to OAR 690-380-4000. No comments were filed in response to the notice.
- 3. On January 27, 2022, the Department contacted the agent, requesting a site inspection with the watermaster, specific to the existence of Well 2. On that same day, the agent for the applicant and the Department agreed that Well 2 does not exist.
- 4. On January 28, 2022, the agent for the applicant submitted revised application tables, removing Well 2 from the transfer application.
- 5. On February 1, 2022, the agent for the applicant submitted revised maps, removing Well 2 from the transfer maps.

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.

- On March 29, 2022, the Department mailed a copy of the draft Preliminary Determination proposing to approve Transfer Application T-13830 to the applicant. The draft Preliminary Determination cover letter set forth a deadline of April 28, 2022, for the applicant to respond. The applicant 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.
- 7. The portion of the right to be transferred is as follows:

Certificate:

81319 in the name of RON HOLEMAN (perfected under Permit G-8369)

Use:

IRRIGATION of 71.4 ACRES

Priority Date: OCTOBER 20, 1978

Rate:

0.89 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, and shall be further limited to appropriation of water only to the extent that it does not impair or substantially interfere with existing

surface water rights of others.

Source:

WELLS #1 and #2, within the UMATILLA RIVER basin

Authorized Points of Appropriation:

Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Measured Distances
3 N	29 E	WM	21	SE SE	WELL 1 - 720 FEET NORTH AND 530 FEET WEST FROM SE CORNER, SECTION 21

Authorized Place of Use:

IRRIGATION					
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
3 N	29 E	WM	21	NE SW	0.6
3 N	29 E	WM	21	SE SW	4.8
3 N	29 E	WM	21	NW SE	18.8
3 N	29 E	WM	21 -	SW SE	38.5
3 N	29 E	WM	21	SE SE	7.2
3 N	29 E	WM	28	NW NE	1.5
TOTAL					71.4

8. Transfer Application T-13830 proposes to change the place of use of the right to:

IRRIGATION					
Twp	Rng	Mer	Sec	Q-Q	Acres
3 N	29 E	WM	21	NE SW	0.4
3 N	29 E	WM	21	SE SW	2.1
3 N	· 29 E	WM	21	NW SE	27.5
3 N	29 E	WM	21	SW SE	34.6
3 N	29 E	WM	21	SE ȘE	6.8
				TOTAL	71.4

Transfer Review Criteria (OAR 690-380-4010)

- Water has been used within the last five years according to the terms and conditions of the right. There is no information in the record that would demonstrate that the right is 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 right were present within the five-year period prior to submittal of Transfer Application T-13830.
- 11. The proposed change would not result in enlargement of the right.
- 12. The proposed change would not result in injury to other water rights.

Determination and Proposed Action

The change in place of use proposed in Transfer Application T-13830 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-13830 is approved, the final order will include the following:

- 1. The change in place of use proposed in Transfer Application T-13830 are approved.
- The right to the use of the water is restricted to beneficial use at the place of use described, and is subject to all other conditions and limitations contained in Certificate 81319, the Stipulated Order for Dismissal with Prejudice, dated June 7, 2004, and any related decree.
- 3. Water right Certificate 81319 is cancelled. A new certificate will be issued describing that portion of the right 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 meters or measuring devices in good working order.

- c. The water user shall allow the Watermaster access to the meters or measuring devices; provided however, where the meters or measuring devices are 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, 2023**. 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 changes and full beneficial use of the water.
- 7. After satisfactory proof of beneficial use is received, a new certificate confirming the right transferred will be issued.

Dated in Salem, Oregon on ___

JUN 0.8 2022

Lisa J. Jaramillo, Transfer and Conservation Section Manager, for

THOMAS M BYLER, DIRECTOR

Oregon Water Resources Department

This Preliminary Determination was prepared by: Tamera Smith. If you have any questions about the information in this document, you may reach me at 503-979-9607 or tamera.l.smith@water.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 these proceedings under the federal Service Members Civil Relief Act. For more information contact the Oregon State Bar at 800-452-8260, the Oregon Military Department at 503-584-3571, or the nearest United States Armed Forces Legal Assistance Office through http://legalassistance.law.af.mil. The Oregon Military Department does not have a toll-free number.