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March 21, 2024

VIA E-MAIL ONLY: JTALBOTT@COID.ORG

Received by OWRD

Jessi Talbott
Director of Water Rights
Central Oregon Irrigation District
1055 SW Lake Rd
Redmond, OR 97756

APR 05 2024

Salem, OR

Re: Central Oregon Irrigation District | Instream Leases and Temporary Transfer Applications

Dear Ms. Talbott,

We represent the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon (“Tribe”). Central Oregon Irrigation District (“COID”) has provided the Tribe with certain information concerning several proposed instream leases and temporary transfer applications identified in Appendix A hereto (collectively, the “Applications”), which Applications propose to either (1) lease water for instream purposes, or (2) temporarily transfer the use of a pre-existing water right.

The Tribe has reviewed the information about the Applications provided by COID. The Tribe has not reviewed the Applications themselves, and is instead relying in good faith upon the summary information provided by COID. Based on that information, the Tribe does not object to the Department of Water Resources (“Department”) processing the Applications in accordance with applicable law, and the Department’s customary practice. The Tribe, however, expressly reserves, and does not waive, all rights, claims, and defenses that it may possess in connection with the Applications, including, but not limited to, whether the Applications violate the Treaty of June 25, 1855, with the Tribes of Middle Oregon, 12 Stat. 963, or the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation Water Rights Settlement Agreement, dated November 17, 1997, as amended.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


Josh Newton
of BEST BEST & KRIEGER LLP