

WATERMASTER APPLICATION REVIEW

Application #:

Applicant's Name:

- Would the proposed allocation have the potential for injury to existing rights?
 Yes No
- If the proposed allocation will cause injury, can it be conditioned to avoid injury?
 Yes No If Yes, please list conditions:
- 3) Have you spoken with persons from other state agencies about this application?Yes No If yes, whom and why?
- 4) Please select the appropriate measurement, recording and reporting condition for this application.

Small < 0.1 CFS, < 9.2 AF

Medium > 0.1 CFS but < 0.25 CFS, > 9.2 AF but< 100 AF

Large > 0.25 CFS, > 100 AF

Require a staff gage if source is runoff or if the reservoir is located in-channel.

Require an in-line flow restrictor.

5) Please provide any additional information or conditions that you believe are necessary for this application.

Watermaster Name:

Watermaster Signature:

WRD Caseworker:

Ph: 503-986-0900/ Fax: 503-986-0901

Date:

Please see attached for application review and comments below:

Dear Caseworker,

There appears to be a glitch in the watermaster review form regarding opportunities for comment box. The following are my comments that should be included with this application (S-89259) review.

- The applicant is applying for 153cfs on 702,277.8 acres. The applicant needs to provide a rate per acre and duty per acre. The reason being is 153cfs at 1/60 cfs/acre equates to 9,180 acres under a typical water right. It would be impossible for 153cfs to be monitored through 13 proposed diversion points over 702,277 acres with no rate or duty limitation. I am not aware of any irrigation right in the state that allows for a rate at the POD with no rate per acre or duty limitation.
- 2) It is unmanageable to continue layering water right applications with other deficient water rights/permits/applications from the same source or other sources. A plan will need created to identify which water rights are being used and where so that layering from the same source, or other deficient rights, does not continue to occur. I propose that only one water right/permit/application on a field is used at a time until the source, identified by order of priority date, is unavailable. This is usual and accustomed in most water rights through the state.
- 3) The applicant is also applying for 27cfs under application S-89258 from the same source with identical points of diversion and place of use. It is unclear to me why these applications where not filed as one and adds to the confusion associated with previous comment.
- 4) The total maximum request of 74,220.30 AF must have been calculated using the rate of 153cfs multiplied by the number of days between March 1-November 1. I could not recreate the exact requested amount and do not understand how this total quantity would be accounted for through typical metering at 13 different points of diversion. An advanced on-farm metering and reporting system will be required by the Watermaster if this application moves forward.
- 5) Does the MCWC have legal authority to deliver water outside of its boundaries? The MCWC was founded as an arm of the Columbia Improvement District and East Improvement District to manage its mitigated water rights. It would seem reasonable it has authority under these boundaries. I do not understand how it could have authority to apply for water rights on parties not associated with the Columbia Improvement District. The list of impacted landowners is lengthy, both inside and outside of the EID/CID boundaries. Have impacted landowners been contacted and agreeable to these impacts on their property?
- 6) Section 10: Remarks Place of Use Acreages. I do not agree with applicants suggested February 14th reporting deadline. There are other permits that have this deadline and it does not allow the State enough time to review the proposed water use reporting prior to water being used.
- 7) I did not consider the cover letter as part of this review. The cover letter appears to be requesting changes to existing permits and there is no guarantee any or all of the existing permit conditions will be continued or granted. This is being reviewed as a new water right application and should stand alone in its review process. It seems that the cover letter is anticipating an outcome/conditions that haven't been determined yet. These will need discussed at a future date upon the completion of all State agency and public comment review.

Greg Silbernagel - Watermaster, District 5 Oregon Water Resources Department 116 SE Dorion Ave. Pendleton, OR 97801 (541) 969-1677