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**From:** [NASHEM Bill D \\* WRD](#)  
**To:** [BJORK Mary F \\* WRD](#)  
**Subject:** FW: LL 2023  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 8, 2026 11:23:04 AM

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**From:** Richard Zimmerlee <rzimmerlee@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 7, 2026 2:30 PM  
**To:** NASHEM Bill D \* WRD <William.D.NASHEM@water.oregon.gov>  
**Cc:** Julie Thompson <thompsonhounds@yahoo.com>; Robin Hayakawa <robin@colw.org>; Ashley McCormick <ashley.cbsun@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** LL 2023

Bill

This memo is to comment on and oppose the Limited License application by Knife River on the Woodward property for multiple reasons.

First, the well proposed to draw 500gpm from does not appear to have the capacity to produce that amount of water. The first well test done when it was drilled shows only 150gpm. After deepening a few feet, the new test shows 291gpm. From observations when the well is running it appears to produce 150-200gpm. That observation is based on a 4" pvc pipe running about half full on an open flow for multiple days.

Second, the OWRD hydrograph for the observation well approximately 1 mile from the Woodward well shows a substantial decline (53+ feet) over the past 3 years with little recovery. The March 2026 reading shows 43+ feet of decline and already showing more decline going into summer.

Crook County is in a declared drought for 2026 and one of the reasons for the LL is that OID can not supply the needs of Knife River. By all observations, neither can the groundwater source without substantially affecting the neighboring wells. By Knife River's experts, they confirm there are approximately 100 domestic wells within 1/2 mile of this site.

In light of the drought, the contamination issues, and ongoing testing by the DEQ and EPA at that site it seems extremely inappropriate to even consider a Limited License at that site.

Dick Zimmerlee

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