PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW FOR GROUND WATER APPLICATIONS

TO: Water Rights Section Date January 28, 2009

FROM: Ground Water/Hydrology Section Josh Hackett
Reviewer's Name

SUBJECT: Application G- 17158 Supersedes review of _____
Date of Review(s)

PUBLIC INTEREST PRESUMPTION; GROUNDWATER

OAR 690-310-130 (1) *The Department shall presume that a proposed groundwater use will ensure the preservation of the public welfare, safety and health as described in ORS 537.525.* Department staff review ground water applications under OAR 690-310-140 to determine whether the presumption is established. OAR 690-310-140 allows the proposed use be modified or conditioned to meet the presumption criteria. **This review is based upon available information and agency policies in place at the time of evaluation**.

A. GENERAL INFORMATION: **Applicant's Name**: Birkemeier Farms Inc. **County: Clackamas**

A1. Applicant(s) seek(s) **1.11** cfs from **1** well(s) in the **Willamette** Basin, _____ subbasin Quad Map: **Canby**

A2. Proposed use: **Nursery Irrigation** Seasonality: **year-round**

A3. Well and aquifer data **(attach and number logs for existing wells; mark proposed wells as such under logid)**:

Well	Logid	Applicant's Well #	Proposed Aquifer*	Proposed Rate(cfs)	Location (T/R-S QQ-Q)	Location, metes and bounds, e.g. 2250' N, 1200' E fr NW cor S 36
1	CLAC 65581	1	CRB	1.11	3S/1E-26 NE-NW	2410' N, 2650' W fr SE cor DLC 43
2						
3						
4						
5						

* Alluvium, CRB, Bedrock

Well	Well Elev ft msl	First Water ft bls	SWL ft bls	SWL Date	Well Depth (ft)	Seal Interval (ft)	Casing Intervals (ft)	Liner Intervals (ft)	Perforations Or Screens (ft)	Well Yield (gpm)	Draw Down (ft)	Test Type
1	**197**	**87**	**121**	**11/24/2008**	**293**	**0-236**	**+1.5-236**			**300**		**A**

Use data from application for proposed wells.

A4. **Comments:** _____

A5. ☒ **Provisions of the** Willamette Basin rules relative to the development, classification and/or management of ground water hydraulically connected to surface water ☐ **are**, *or* ☒ **are not**, activated by this application. (Not all basin rules contain such provisions.)
Comments: The applicant's well produces from a confined aquifer, so the pertinent basin rules do not apply.

A6. ☐ **Well(s) #** _____ , _____ , _____ , _____ , _____ , tap(s) an aquifer limited by an administrative restriction.
Name of administrative area: _____
Comments: _____

B. GROUND WATER AVAILABILITY CONSIDERATIONS, OAR 690-310-130, 400-010, 410-0070

B1. **Based upon available data**, I have determined that ground water* for the proposed use:

a. ☐ **is** over appropriated, ☐ **is not** over appropriated, *or* ☒ **cannot be determined to be** over appropriated during any period of the proposed use. * This finding is limited to the ground water portion of the over-appropriation determination as prescribed in OAR 690-310-130;

b. ☐ **will not** *or* ☐ **will** likely be available in the amounts requested without injury to prior water rights. * This finding is limited to the ground water portion of the injury determination as prescribed in OAR 690-310-130;

c. ☐ **will not** *or* ☐ **will** likely to be available within the capacity of the ground water resource; or

d. ☒ **will, if properly conditioned**, avoid injury to existing ground water rights or to the ground water resource:
   i. ☒ The permit should contain condition #(s) **7B, 7I**;
   ii. ☐ The permit should be conditioned as indicated in item 2 below.
   iii. ☐ The permit should contain special condition(s) as indicated in item 3 below;

B2. a. ☐ **Condition** to allow ground water production from no deeper than _____ ft. below land surface;

b. ☐ **Condition** to allow ground water production from no shallower than _____ ft. below land surface;

c. ☐ **Condition** to allow ground water production only from the _____ ground water reservoir between approximately _____ ft. and _____ ft. below land surface;

d. ☐ **Well reconstruction** is necessary to accomplish one or more of the above conditions. The problems that are likely to occur with this use and without reconstructing are cited below. Without reconstruction, I recommend withholding issuance of the permit until evidence of well reconstruction is filed with the Department and approved by the Ground Water Section.

Describe injury –as related to water availability– that is likely to occur without well reconstruction (interference w/ senior water rights, not within the capacity of the resource, etc): _____

B3. **Ground water availability remarks: SPECIAL CONDITION: The well shall not be deepened or altered such that water is produced from other aquifers in the Columbia River Basalt Group.**

The applicant's well produces from water-bearing zones in the Columbia River Basalt Group (CRBG). The CRBG consists of a series of lava flows that range up to 1000 feet thick in the vicinity of the applicant's well. Most water in the CRBG occurs in confined aquifers that occupy thin rubble zones (interflow zones) that occur at the contacts between lava flows. The interiors of the basalt flows generally have low porosity and permeability and act as confining beds. This physical geometry generally produces a stack of thin aquifers (interflow zones) separated by thick confining beds (flow interiors). In the area of the applicant's well, the basalt aquifers are overlain by 200 feet of alluvial sediments. Because the aquifers are confined (storativity is estimated to be 0.0001), pumping impacts will propagate outward at rapid rates and reach aquifer boundaries (streams, faults, and truncated basalt flow margins) within a matter of minutes. Using aquifer parameters appropriate for the basalts, it can be shown that the cone of depression from a pumped well will produce measureable impacts at a distance of 1 mile within 1 hour. Therefore, hydraulic interference with nearby wells, springs, and streams will occur rapidly once pumping begins. The observance of significantly different water levels in nearby wells of different depths (see attached plot) suggests that there is a poor natural connection between overlying aquifers in the CRBG. This is illustrated by comparing nearby wells CLAC 9648 and CLAC 12167 which have March water-level elevations that differ by approximately 90 feet (see attached hydrograph).

The adequacy of the ground-water supply for the proposed use cannot be assessed with any degree of confidence because of the lack of long-term water level records for wells completed in the same water-bearing zones. The 7I decline condition, as stipulated by OAR 690-502-0250, should provide some protection for the resource and for senior users should declines become evident in the future.

C. GROUND WATER/SURFACE WATER CONSIDERATIONS, OAR 690-09-040

C1. **690-09-040 (1):** Evaluation of aquifer confinement:

Well	Aquifer or Proposed Aquifer	Confined	Unconfined
1	**Basalt**	☒	☐
		☐	☐
		☐	☐
		☐	☐
		☐	☐

Basis for aquifer confinement evaluation: Water bearing zones in the well are confined by 200 feet of alluvial sediments. Additionally, the static water level rises above water bearing zones. These factors indicate the well produces from a confined aquifer.

C2. **690-09-040 (2) (3):** Evaluation of distance to, and hydraulic connection with, surface water sources. All wells located a horizontal distance less than ¼ mile from a surface water source that produce water from an unconfined aquifer shall be assumed to be hydraulically connected to the surface water source. Include in this table any streams located beyond one mile that are evaluated for PSI.

Well	SW #	Surface Water Name	GW Elev ft msl	SW Elev ft msl	Distance (ft)	Hydraulically Connected? YES	NO	ASSUMED	Potential for Subst. Interfer. Assumed? YES	NO
1	**1**	**Parrott Creek**	**120**	**100**	**1450**	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒
1	**2**	**Willamette River**	**120**	**60**	**2000**	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
						☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Basis for aquifer hydraulic connection evaluation: The well produces from a basalt aquifer that is below the elevation of local stream reaches. Because of the very low vertical permeability of the basalt flow interiors, wells that are cased and sealed below the depths of local streams should be effectively isolated from those streams.

Water Availability Basin the well(s) are located within: 181 Willamette R > Columbia R – At Mouth

C3a. **690-09-040 (4):** Evaluation of stream impacts for each well that has been determined or assumed to be **hydraulically connected and less than 1 mile** from a surface water source. Limit evaluation to instream rights and minimum stream flows that are pertinent to that surface water source, and not lower SW sources to which the stream under evaluation is tributary. Compare the requested rate against the 1% of 80% *natural* flow for the pertinent Water Availability Basin (WAB). If Q is not distributed by well, use full rate for each well. Any checked ☒ box indicates the well is assumed to have the potential to cause PSI.

Well	SW #	Well < ¼ mile?	Qw > 5 cfs?	Instream Water Right ID	Instream Water Right Q (cfs)	Qw > 1% ISWR?	80% Natural Flow (cfs)	Qw > 1% of 80% Natural Flow?	Interference @ 30 days (%)	Potential for Subst. Interfer. Assumed?
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐
		☐	☐			☐		☐		☐

C3b. **690-09-040 (4):** Evaluation of stream impacts by total appropriation for all wells determined or assumed to be **hydraulically connected and less than 1 mile** from a surface water source. **Complete only if Q is distributed among wells**. Otherwise same evaluation and limitations apply as in C3a above.

	SW #		Qw > 5 cfs?	Instream Water Right ID	Instream Water Right Q (cfs)	Qw > 1% ISWR?	80% Natural Flow (cfs)	Qw > 1% of 80% Natural Flow?	Interference @ 30 days (%)	Potential for Subst. Interfer. Assumed?
			☐			☐		☐		☐
			☐			☐		☐		☐
			☐			☐		☐		☐
			☐			☐		☐		☐

Comments: ______________________________

C4a. **690-09-040 (5):** Estimated impacts on **hydraulically connected surface water sources greater than one mile** as a percentage of the proposed pumping rate. Limit evaluation to the effects that will occur up to one year after pumping begins. This table encompasses the considerations required by 09-040 (5)(a), (b), (c) and (d), which are not included on this form. Use additional sheets if calculated flows from more than one WAB are required.

Non-Distributed Wells													
Well	SW#	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Well Q as CFS													
Interference CFS													
Distributed Wells													
Well	SW#	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Well Q as CFS													
Interference CFS													
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Well Q as CFS													
Interference CFS													
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Well Q as CFS													
Interference CFS													
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Well Q as CFS													
Interference CFS													
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Well Q as CFS													
Interference CFS													
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Well Q as CFS													
Interference CFS													
(A) = Total Interf.													
(B) = 80 % Nat. Q													
(C) = 1 % Nat. Q													
(D) = (A) > (C)		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(E) = (A / B) x 100		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

(A) = total interference as CFS; (B) = WAB calculated natural flow at 80% exceed. as CFS; (C) = 1% of calculated natural flow at 80% exceed. as CFS; (D) = highlight the checkmark for each month where (A) is greater than (C); (E) = total interference divided by 80% flow as percentage.

Basis for impact evaluation: No impact is calculated because the well was determined to not have hydraulic connection with local streams.

C4b. **690-09-040 (5) (b) The potential to impair or detrimentally affect the public interest is to be determined by the Water Rights Section.**

C5. ☐ **If properly conditioned**, the surface water source(s) can be adequately protected from interference, and/or ground water use under this permit can be regulated if it is found to substantially interfere with surface water:

i. ☐ The permit should contain condition #(s)_____;

ii. ☐ The permit should contain special condition(s) as indicated in "Remarks" below;

C6. **SW / GW Remarks and Conditions:**

References Used:

Conlon and others, 2005, Ground-water hydrology of the Willamette Basin, Oregon: U.S Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2005-5168.

Gannett and Caldwell, 1998, Geologic framework of the Willamette lowland aquifer system, Oregon and Washington: U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 1424-A,

Woodward and others, 1998, Hydrogeologic framework of the Willamette lowland aquifer system, Oregon and Washington: U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 1424-B,

D. WELL CONSTRUCTION, OAR 690-200

D1. **Well #**: _____ **Logid:** _____

D2. **THE WELL does not meet current well construction standards based upon:**
- a. ☐ review of the well log;
- b. ☐ field inspection by _____;
- c. ☐ report of CWRE _____;
- d. ☐ other: (specify) _____

D3. **THE WELL construction deficiency**:
- a. ☐ constitutes a health threat under Division 200 rules;
- b. ☐ commingles water from more than one ground water reservoir;
- c. ☐ permits the loss of artesian head;
- d. ☐ permits the de-watering of one or more ground water reservoirs;
- e. ☐ other: (specify) _____

D4. **THE WELL construction deficiency is described as follows:** _____

D5. **THE WELL**
- a. ☐ **was**, *or* ☐ **was not** constructed according to the standards in effect at the time of original construction or most recent modification.
- b. ☐ I don't know if it met standards at the time of construction.

D6. ☐ **Route to the Enforcement Section.** I recommend withholding issuance of the permit until evidence of well reconstruction is filed with the Department and approved by the Enforcement Section and the Ground Water Section.

THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL

D7. ☐ Well construction deficiency has been corrected by the following actions: _____

_____ _____, 200____.
(Enforcement Section Signature)

D8. ☐ **Route to Water Rights Section (attach well reconstruction logs to this page).**

Water Availability Basins

WILLAMETTE R> COLUMBIA R- AT MOUTH
WILLAMETTE BASIN

Water Availability as of 1/28/2009

Watershed ID #: 181

Exceedance Level: 80%

Date: 1/28/2009

Time: 2:33 PM

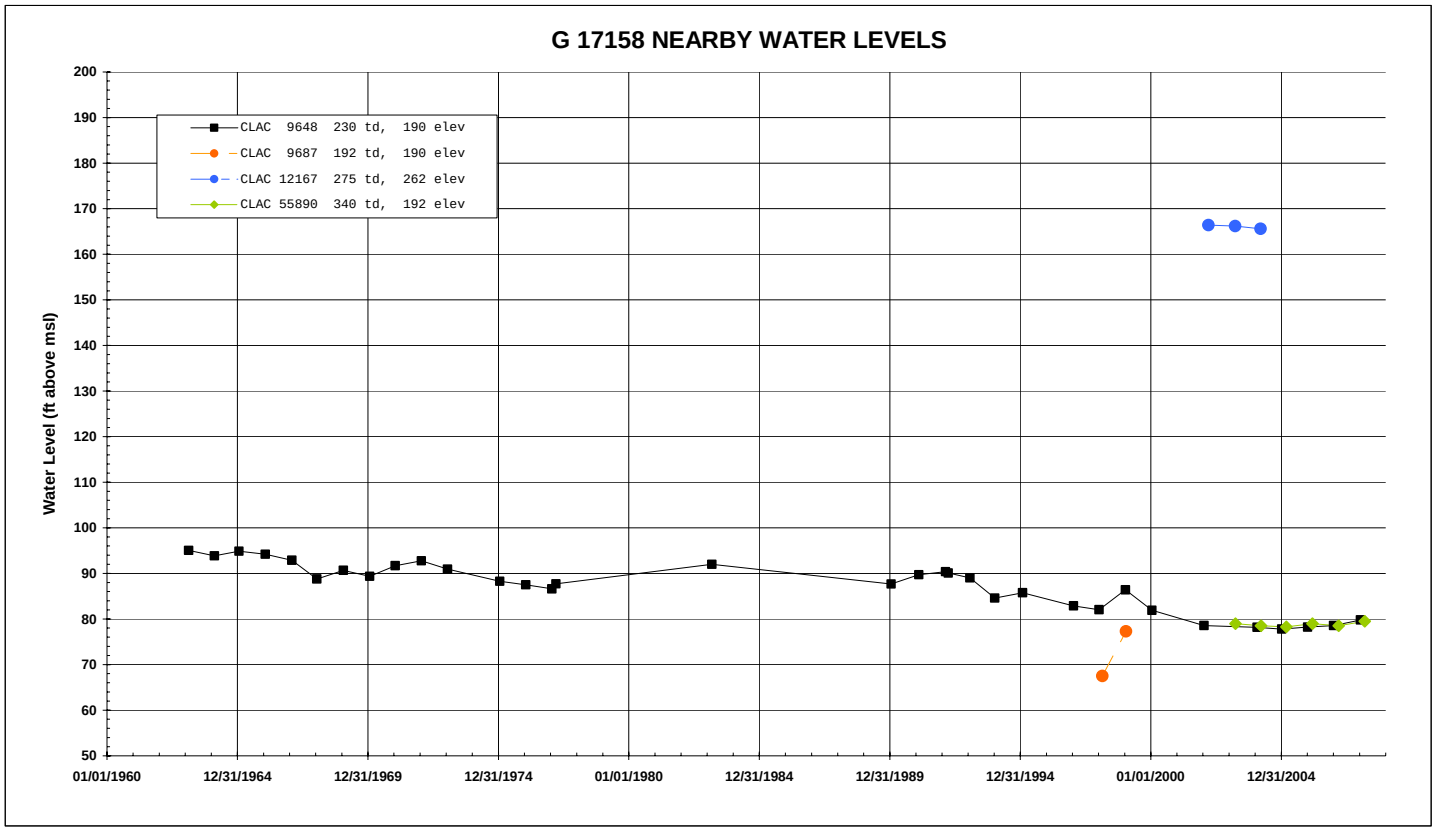
Water Availability Calculation | Consumptive Uses and Storages | Instream Requirements | Reservations | Water Rights | Watershed Characteristics

Water Availability Calculation

Monthly Streamflows in Cubic Feet per Second
Storage at 50% Exceedance in Acre-Feet

Month	Natural Stream Flow	Consumptive Use and Storage	Expected Stream Flow	Reserved Stream Flow	Instream Requirement	Net Water Available
Jan	27,500.00	2,720.00	24,800.00	0.00	1,500.00	23,300.00
Feb	30,000.00	8,000.00	22,000.00	0.00	1,500.00	20,500.00
Mar	28,500.00	7,570.00	20,900.00	0.00	1,500.00	19,400.00
Apr	25,400.00	7,200.00	18,200.00	0.00	1,500.00	16,700.00
May	20,700.00	4,460.00	16,200.00	0.00	1,500.00	14,700.00
Jun	11,000.00	2,610.00	8,390.00	0.00	1,500.00	6,890.00
Jul	6,280.00	2,550.00	3,730.00	0.00	1,500.00	2,230.00
Aug	4,890.00	2,320.00	2,570.00	0.00	1,500.00	1,070.00
Sep	4,930.00	1,950.00	2,980.00	0.00	1,500.00	1,480.00
Oct	5,990.00	746.00	5,240.00	0.00	1,500.00	3,740.00
Nov	12,700.00	1,030.00	11,700.00	0.00	1,500.00	10,200.00
Dec	24,800.00	1,380.00	23,400.00	0.00	1,500.00	21,900.00

Water Levels in Nearby Wells



Well Location Map