



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

## Water Resources Department

North Mall Office Building  
725 Summer Street NE, Suite A  
Salem, OR 97301-1271  
503-986-0900  
FAX 503-986-0904

### **CERTIFIED MAIL Return Receipt Requested**

SENECA SAWMILL CO  
ATTENTION: MONICA JELDEN  
PO BOX 851  
EUGENE, OR 97440

March 6, 2009

Reference: File G-17149

Dear Applicant:

### **THIS IS NOT A PERMIT AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT THE NEXT PHASE OF PROCESSING.**

This letter is to inform you of the preliminary analysis of your water use permit application and to describe your options. In determining whether a water use permit application may be approved, the Department must consider the factors listed below, all of which must be favorable to the proposed use if it is to be allowed. Based on the information you have supplied, the Water Resources Department has made the following preliminary determinations:

#### Initial Review Determinations:

1. The application proposed the use of 400.0 gallons per minute, or 0.89 cubic foot per second (CFS) of water from Well 1 (W12) and Well 2 (W7- LANE 65753) for year-round industrial use.
2. The proposed use is not prohibited by law or rule except where otherwise noted below.
3. If properly conditioned, the proposed use of ground water will avoid injury to existing ground water rights and the resource.
4. The Department has determined, based upon Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 690-009, that the proposed ground water use from Well 1 (W12) will not have the potential for substantial interference with any surface water source.
5. The Department has determined, based upon OAR 690-009, that the proposed ground water use from Well 2 (W7- LANE 65753) will have the potential for substantial interference with an unnamed tributary of Amazon Creek. Therefore, in accordance with OAR 690-400-0010(11)(a)(B), surface water availability must also be considered. Surface water is not available in the amount requested during the period August 1 through August 31.

6. The Department has determined, based upon OAR 690-009, that Well 2 (W7- LANE 65753) will produce ground water from unconfined alluvium within a quarter mile of the banks of surface water and is presumed to be hydraulically connected to the surface water. Such hydraulically connected ground water is classified the same as the surface source under OAR 690-502-0240. The use of water from Well 2 (W7- LANE 65753) in Amazon Creek Basin for year-round industrial use is not allowable under OAR 690-502-0090(1)(b), the Willamette Basin Program.
7. The use of water from Well 1 (W12) in Amazon Creek Basin for industrial use is allowable under the Willamette Basin Program.
8. The Department has determined there are deficiencies with the application. Please refer to the **Additional Information Required** section below for specific information.

### **Summary of Initial Determinations**

**The use of 0.89 CFS from Well 1 (W12) in Amazon Creek Basin for industrial use may be allowed during the full period requested, year round.**

**Because not all items above are favorable, the use of 0.89 CFS of water from Well 2 (W7- LANE 65753) in Amazon Creek Basin for year-round industrial use is not allowable, and it appears unlikely that you will be issued a permit for the use of ground water from this well. At this time, you must decide whether to proceed or to withdraw your application as described below.**

Because of the Department's determination, your application can be moved to the next phase of the water-rights application review process, where public interest factors will be evaluated. However, due to #5 and #6 above, your application will likely be limited accordingly.

### **Additional Information Required:**

Additional information is required to process your application prior to issuance of any Proposed Final Order that may recommend approval. Please provide the following:

- The map indicates a portion of the proposed place of use is located in Section 10, Township 17 South, Range 4 West, W.M.; however, the correct location is the NENE and the SENE in Section 9, T17S, R4W, W.M. In addition, a portion of the proposed use is located in the SESE Section 4, T17S, R4W, W.M. Please label these three quarter-quarter sections correctly on a revised map, being SESE, Section 4 and NENE and SENE, Section 9, T17S, R4W, W.M.

**Please submit this information no later than Thursday, April 9, 2009.** If you are unable to submit the information listed above, you may request an administrative hold for up to an additional 180 days. You must submit the request in writing, stating how much more time you will need and why you need additional time. If an administrative hold is granted, your application will not be processed further until the requested information is received or the extended deadline has passed.

If we do not receive the items requested above or a request for an administrative hold by this date, the Department will likely proceed with a Proposed Final Order recommending denial of the application.

Please reference the application number when sending any correspondence regarding the conclusions of this initial review. Comments received within the comment period will be evaluated at the next phase of the process.

At this time, you must decide whether to proceed or to withdraw your application as described below.

Withdrawal Refunds:

If you choose not to proceed, you may withdraw your application and receive a refund (minus a \$150 processing charge per application.) To accomplish this you must notify the Department in writing by **Friday, March 20, 2009**. For your convenience you may use the enclosed "STOP PROCESSING" form.

To Proceed With Your Application:

If you choose to proceed with your application, you do not have to notify the Department. Your application will automatically be placed on the Department's Public Notice to allow others the opportunity to comment. After the comment period the Department will complete a public interest review and issue a Proposed Final Order.

If A Permit Is Issued It Will Likely Include The Following Conditions:

1. Measurement, recording and reporting conditions:

- A. Before water use may begin under this permit, the permittee shall install a totalizing flow meter at each point of appropriation. The permittee shall maintain the meter or measuring device in good working order, shall keep a complete record of the amount of water used each month, and shall submit a report which includes the recorded water use measurements to the Department annually or more frequently as may be required by the Director. Further, the Director may require the permittee to report general water-use information, including the place and nature of use of water under the permit.
  - B. The permittee shall allow the watermaster access to the meter or measuring device; provided however, where the meter or measuring device is located within a private structure, the watermaster shall request access upon reasonable notice.
2. If substantial interference with a senior water right occurs due to withdrawal of water from any well listed on this permit, then use of water from the well(s) shall be discontinued or reduced and/or the schedule of withdrawal shall be regulated until or unless the Department approves or implements an alternative administrative action to mitigate the interference. The Department encourages junior and senior appropriators to jointly develop plans to mitigate interferences.
  3. Prior to using water from any well listed on this permit, the permittee shall ensure that the well has been assigned an OWRD Well Identification Number (Well ID tag), which

shall be permanently attached to the well. The Well ID shall be used as a reference in any correspondence regarding the well, including any reports of water use, water level, or pump test data.

4. The Department requires the water user to obtain, from a qualified individual (see below), and report annual static water levels for each well on the permit. The static water level shall be measured in the month of March. Reports shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days of measurement.

The permittee shall report an initial March static water-level measurement once well construction is complete and annual measurements thereafter. Annual measurements are required whether or not the well is used. The first annual measurement will establish a reference level against which future measurements will be compared. However, the Director may establish the reference level based on an analysis of other water-level data. The Director may require the user to obtain and report additional water levels each year if more data are needed to evaluate the aquifer system.

All measurements shall be made by a certified water rights examiner, registered professional geologist, registered professional engineer, licensed well constructor or pump installer licensed by the Construction Contractors Board. Measurements shall be submitted on forms provided by, or specified by, the Department. Measurements shall be made with equipment that is accurate to at least the standards specified in OAR 690-217-0045. The Department requires the individual performing the measurement to:

- A. Associate each measurement with an owner's well name or number and a Department well log ID; and
- B. Report water levels to at least the nearest tenth of a foot as depth-to-water below ground surface; and
- C. Specify the method of measurement; and
- D. Certify the accuracy of all measurements and calculations reported to the Department.

The water user shall discontinue use of, or reduce the rate or volume of withdrawal from, the well(s) if any of the following events occur:

- A. Annual water-level measurements reveal an average water-level decline of three or more feet per year for five consecutive years; or
- B. Annual water-level measurements reveal a water-level decline of 15 or more feet in fewer than five consecutive years; or
- C. Annual water-level measurements reveal a water-level decline of 25 or more feet; or
- D. Hydraulic interference leads to a decline of 25 or more feet in any neighboring well with senior priority.

The period of restricted use shall continue until the water level rises above the decline level which triggered the action or the Department determines, based on the permittee's and/or the Department's data and analysis, that no action is necessary because the aquifer in question can sustain the observed declines without adversely impacting the resource or causing substantial interference with senior water rights. The water user shall not allow excessive decline, as defined in Commission rules, to occur within the aquifer as a result of use under this permit. If more than one well is involved, the water user may submit an alternative measurement and reporting plan for review and approval by the Department.

This initial review does not attempt to address various public interest issues such as sensitive, threatened, or endangered fish species. These issues will be addressed as the Department reviews comments from the public and other agencies, and prepares a Proposed Final Order. You should be aware that, if significant public interest issues are found to exist, such a finding could have an impact on the eventual outcome of your application.

The water source identified in your application may be affected by an Agricultural Water Quality Management Area Plan. These plans are developed by the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) with the cooperation of local landowners and other interested stakeholders, and help to ensure that current and new appropriations of water are done in a way that does not adversely harm the environment. You are encouraged to explore ODA's Water Quality Program web site at [http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/NRD/water\\_agplans.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/NRD/water_agplans.shtml) to learn more about the plans and how they may affect your proposed water use.

If you have any questions:

Feel free to call me at 503-986-0816 if you have any questions regarding the contents of this letter or your application. Please have your application number available if you call. General questions about water rights and water use permits should be directed to our customer service staff at 503-986-0801. When corresponding by mail, please use this address: Kerry Kavanagh, Oregon Water Resources Department, 725 Summer St NE Ste A, Salem OR 97301-1266. Our fax number is 503-986-0901.

Sincerely,



Kerry Kavanagh  
Water Right Application Caseworker

enclosures: Application Process Description and Stop Processing Request Form

G-17149  
WAB 2-114  
POU 2-114  
GW Well 1 (W12) - no psi; Well 2 (W7) - psi

# APPLICATION FACT SHEET

Application File Number: G-17149

Applicant: SENECA SAWMILL CO; ATTENTION: MONICA JELDEN

County: LANE

Watermaster: 2

Priority Date: DECEMBER 4, 2008

Source: WELL 1 (W12) AND WELL 2 (W7) IN AMAZON CREEK BASIN

Use: INDUSTRIAL USE

Quantity: 0.89 CUBIC FOOT PER SECOND

Basin Name & Number: Willamette, #2

Stream Index Reference: Volume 3A LONG TOM R MISC

Well Locations:

WELL1 (W12) - SESW, SECTION 4, T17S, R4W, W.M.; 1297 FEET NORTH AND 1352 FEET EAST FROM SW CORNER, SECTION 4

WELL 2 (W7) - SWSE, SECTION 4, T17S, R4W, W.M.; 929 FEET NORTH AND 768 FEET EAST FROM S1/4 CORNER, SECTION 4

Place of Use:

SW  $\frac{1}{4}$  SW  $\frac{1}{4}$   
SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  SW  $\frac{1}{4}$   
SW  $\frac{1}{4}$  SE  $\frac{1}{4}$   
SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  SE  $\frac{1}{4}$   
SECTION 4

NE  $\frac{1}{4}$  NE  $\frac{1}{4}$   
NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  NE  $\frac{1}{4}$   
SW  $\frac{1}{4}$  NE  $\frac{1}{4}$   
SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  NE  $\frac{1}{4}$   
NE  $\frac{1}{4}$  NW  $\frac{1}{4}$   
SECTION 9

TOWNSHIP 17 SOUTH, RANGE 4 WEST, W.M.

**14 DAY STOP PROCESSING DEADLINE DATE: Friday, March 20, 2009**

**PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: Tuesday, March 10, 2009**

**30 DAY COMMENT DEADLINE DATE: Thursday, April 9, 2009**

# Mailing List for IR Copies

Application #G-17149

IR Date : March 6, 2009

## Original mailed to applicant:

SENECA SAWMILL CO  
ATTENTION: MONICA JELDEN  
PO BOX 851, EUGENE, OR 97440

## Copies sent to:

1. WRD - File # G-17149
2. WRD - Water Availability: Ken Stahr

## IR, Map, and Fact Sheet Copies sent **VIA EMAIL** to:

3. WRD - Watermaster # 2
4. ODFW:
5. DEQ:

## IR, Map, and Fact Sheet Copies sent to:

6. Department of Agriculture

<p>Copies Mailed By: _____ (SUPPORT STAFF) on: _____ (DATE)</p>
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Affected Landowners (include "Notice of Initial Review--Affected Landowner"):

Copies sent to Other Interested Persons (CWRE, Agent, Well Driller, Commenter, etc.)

COPYSHT.IR

Caseworker: Kerry Kavanagh

**REMINDER:** Copy **all** IR's for uses in the Klamath Basin to DEQ and ODFW contacts, regardless of whether they are subject to Division 33. (If they are not subject to Division 33, do not include Division 33 forms.)

