

Oregon Water Resources Department
Water Right Services Division

PROPOSED FINAL ORDER

In the Matter of the Application for an Extension of Time for Permit G-13288, Water Right Application G-14463, in the name of Vicki L Bauer

Permit Information

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Application: | G-14463 |
| Permit: | G-13288 |
| Basin: | 15 – Rogue / Watermaster District 14 |
| Date of Priority: | February 19, 1997 |
| Source of Water: | Well 3 in Williams Creek Basin |
| Purpose of Use: | Irrigation use on 18.8 Acres |
| Maximum Rate: | 0.134 cubic feet per second (cfs) |

*****Please read this Proposed Final Order in its entirety as it may contain additional conditions not included in the original permit. *****

In Summary, the Department proposes to:

- Grant an extension of time to apply water to full beneficial use from October 1, 2014 to October 30, 2019¹.
- Make the extension subject to certain conditions set forth below.

This Extension of Time request is being processed in accordance with Oregon Revised Statute 537.630 and 539.010(5), and Oregon Administrative Rule Chapter 690, Division 315.

¹Pursuant to ORS 537.630(4), upon the completion of beneficial use of water allowed under the permit, the permittee shall hire a certified water rights examiner to survey the appropriation. Within one year after the complete application of water to a beneficial use (or by the date allowed for the complete application of water to a beneficial use), the permittee shall submit a map of the survey and a new or revised claim of beneficial use as deemed appropriate by the Department.

ACRONYM QUICK REFERENCE

Department – Oregon Department of Water Resources

PFO – Proposed Final Order

cfs – cubic feet per second

gpm – gallons per minute

AUTHORITY

Generally, see ORS 537.630 and OAR Chapter 690 Division 315.

ORS 537.630(1) provides in pertinent part that the Oregon Water Resources Department may, for good cause shown, order an extension of time within which: irrigation or other works shall be completed; the well or other means of developing and securing ground water shall be completed; or the right perfected. In determining the extension, the Department shall give due weight to the considerations described under ORS 539.010(5) and to whether other governmental requirements relating to the project have significantly delayed completion of construction or perfection of the right.

ORS 539.010(5) provides in pertinent part that the Water Resources Director, for good cause shown, may extend the time within which the full amount of the water appropriated shall be applied to a beneficial use. This statute instructs the Director to consider: the cost of the appropriation and application of the water to a beneficial purpose; the good faith of the appropriator; the market for water or power to be supplied; the present demands therefore; and the income or use that may be required to provide fair and reasonable returns upon the investment.

OAR 690-315-0040 provides in pertinent part that the Water Resources Department shall make findings to determine if an extension of time may be approved to complete construction and/or apply water to full beneficial use.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Background

1. Permit G-13288 was granted by the Department on January 21, 1998. The permit authorizes the use of up to 0.134 cfs of water from Well 3 in Williams Creek Basin for irrigation use on 18.8 acres. The permit specified actual construction of the well to begin by January 21, 1999, and complete application of water was to be made on or before October 1, 2014.
2. The permit holder submitted an "Application for Extension of Time" to the Department on November 12, 2014, requesting both the time to complete construction of the water system and the time to apply water to full beneficial use under the terms and conditions of Permit G-13288 be extended from October 1, 2014 or to October 30, 2019. However,

since the permit does not contain a specific deadline for completing construction, the Department needs to only consider an extension of the time to apply water to full beneficial use. This is the first permit extension requested for Permit G-13288.

3. Notification of the Application for Extension of Time for Permit G-13288 was published in the Department's Public Notice dated November 18, 2014. No public comments were received regarding the extension application.

Review Criteria [OAR 690-315-0040]

The time limits to complete construction and/or apply water to full beneficial use may be extended if the Department finds that the permit holder has met the requirements set forth under OAR 690-315-0040. This determination shall consider the applicable requirements of ORS 537.230², 537.248³, 537.630⁴ and/or 539.010(5)⁵.

Complete Extension of Time Application [OAR 690-315-0040(1)(a)]

4. On November 12, 2014, the Department received a completed Application for Extension of Time and the fee specified in ORS 536.050 from the permit holder.

Start of Construction [OAR 690-315-0040(1)(b) and 690-315-0040(5)]

5. Actual construction of the well began prior to the January 21, 1999 deadline specified in the permit. Construction of Well 3 began July 29, 1972.

Duration of Extension [OAR 690-315-0040(1)(c)]

Under OAR 690-315-0040(1)(c), in order to approve an extension of time for water use permits the Department must find that the time requested is reasonable and the applicant can complete the project within the time requested.

6. As of November 12, 2014, the remaining work to be completed consists of installing pipes and hoses, completing construction of the water system and applying water to full beneficial use to the remaining 0.8 acres.
7. Given the amount of development left to occur, the Department has determined that the permit holder's request to have until October 30, 2019, to accomplish the application of water to beneficial use under the terms and conditions of Permit G-13288 is both reasonable and necessary.

Good Cause [OAR 690-315-0040(1)(d)]

The Department's determination of good cause shall consider the requirements set forth under OAR 690-315-0040(2).

²ORS 537.230 applies to surface water permits only.

³ORS 537.248 applies to reservoir permits only.

⁴ORS 537.630 applies to ground water permits only.

⁵ORS 539.010(5) applies to surface water and ground water permits.

Reasonable Diligence of the Appropriator [OAR 690-315-0040(2)(a)]

The Department's determination of reasonable diligence shall consider the requirements set forth under OAR 690-315-0040(3)(a-d). In accordance with OAR 690-315-0040(3), the Department shall consider, but is not limited to, the following factors when determining whether the applicant has demonstrated reasonable diligence in previous performance under the permit:

Amount of Construction [OAR 690-315-0040(3)(a)]

8. Work was accomplished within the time allowed in the permit or previous extension as follows:
 - a. Construction of the well and water system began prior to the January 21, 1999 deadline specified in the permit. Construction of Well 3 began July 29, 1972.
 - b. Work was completed during the original development time frame under Permit G-13288. The permit holder installed pipe and risers.
 - c. Since October 1, 2002, the permit holder has installed a meter pipes and risers.

Beneficial Use of Water [OAR 690-315-0040(3)(b)]

9. The following beneficial use of water was made during the permit or previous extension time limits:
 - a. Since the issuance of Permit G-13288 on January 21, 1998, a maximum rate of 0.134 cfs of water has been appropriated from Well 3 for irrigation of 18.0 acres.

Compliance with Conditions [OAR 690-315-0040(3)(c)]

10. The Department has considered the permit holder's compliance with conditions, and did not identify any concerns.

Financial Investments to Appropriate and Apply Water to a Beneficial Purpose [OAR 690-315-0040(2)(b),(3)(d),(4)(d)]

11. As of November 12, 2014, the permit holder invested approximately \$19,500, which is approximately 86 percent of the total projected cost for complete development of this project. The permit holder anticipates an additional \$3,000 investment is needed for the completion of this project.

Good Faith of the Appropriator [OAR 690-315-0040(2)(c)]

12. The Department has found good faith of the appropriator under Permit G-13288.

The Market and Present Demands for Water [OAR 690-315-0040(2)(d-e)]

The Department's determinations of market and present demand for water or power to be supplied shall consider the requirements set forth under OAR 690-315-0040(4)(a-f). In accordance with OAR 690-315-0040(4), the Department shall consider, but is not limited to, the

following factors when determining the market and the present demand for water or power to be supplied:

13. The amount of water available to satisfy other affected water rights and scenic waterway flows; special water use designations established since permit issuance, including but not limited to state scenic waterways, federal wild and scenic rivers, serious water management problem areas or water quality limited sources established under 33 U.S.C. 1313(d); or the habitat needs of sensitive, threatened or endangered species, in consultation with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife [OAR 690-315-0040(4)(a-c)].

The amount of water available to satisfy other affected water rights and scenic waterway flows was determined at the time of issuance of Permit G-13288; furthermore, water availability for other affected water rights and scenic waterway flows after the permit was issued is determined when an application for a new water right is submitted. The point of appropriation for Permit G-13288, is located within the Williams Creek Basin, and is not located within a limited or critical ground water area. Williams Creek is above the Rogue Scenic Waterway, and, it is located within an area ranked "Highest" for stream flow restoration needs as determined by the Department in consultation with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and is located within a Sensitive, Threatened or Endangered Fish Species Area as identified by the Department in consultation with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. The point of appropriation is not in an area listed by the Department of Environmental Quality as a water quality limited stream.

Other economic interests dependent on completion of the project [OAR 690-315-0040(4)(e)].

14. None have been identified.

Other factors relevant to the determination of the market and present demand for water and power [OAR 690-315-0040(4)(f)].

15. None have been identified.

Fair Return Upon Investment [OAR 690-315-0040(2)(f)]

16. Use and income from the permitted water development will likely result in reasonable returns upon the investment made to date.

Other Governmental Requirements [OAR 690-315-0040(2)(g)]

17. Delay in the development of this project was not caused by any other governmental requirements.

Unforeseen Events [OAR 690-315-0040(2)(h)]

18. None have been identified.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW


1. The applicant is entitled to apply for an extension of time to complete construction and/or completely apply water to the full beneficial use pursuant to ORS 537.630(1).
2. The applicant has submitted a complete extension application form and the fee specified in ORS 536.050, as required by OAR 690-315-0040(1)(a).
3. The applicant complied with begin actual construction timeline requirements pursuant to ORS 537.630 as required by OAR 690-315-0040(1)(b) and OAR 690-315-0040(5).
4. Full application of water to beneficial use can be accomplished by October 30, 2019, as required by OAR 690-315-0040(1)(c).
5. The Department has considered the reasonable diligence and good faith of the appropriator, the cost to appropriate and apply water to a beneficial purpose, the market and present demands for water to be supplied, the financial investment made and fair and reasonable return upon the investment, the requirements of other governmental agencies, and unforeseen events over which the permit holder had no control, whether denial of the extension will result in undue hardship to the applicant and whether there are no other reasonable alternatives for meeting water use needs, any other factors relevant to a determination of good cause, and has determined that the applicant has shown that good cause exists for an extension of time to apply water to full beneficial use pursuant to OAR 690-315-0040(1)(d).

PROPOSED ORDER

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Department proposes to issue an order to:

Extend the time to apply water to beneficial use under Permit G-13288 from October 1, 2014 to October 30, 2019.

DATED: December 23, 2014


Dwight W. French, Administrator,
Water Right Services Division

*If you have any questions,
please check the information
box on the last page for the
appropriate names and
phone numbers.*

