



Oregon
Kate Brown, Governor

Water Resources Department
725 Summer St NE, Suite A
Salem, OR 97301
(503) 986-0900
Fax (503) 986-0904

August 28, 2015

ROBERT B PERRY
PO BOX 697
JOSEPH, OR 97846

Reference: File G-18108

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 the water-use permit application and to describe the options. In determining whether an 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 supplied, the Water Resources Department has made the following preliminary determinations:

Initial Review Determinations:

1. The application proposed the appropriation of 0.86 cubic foot per second (CFS) of water from Well 1 in Lostine River Basin for irrigation of 68.5 acres April 1 through October 15 of each year.
2. The proposed use is not prohibited by law or rule except where otherwise noted below.
3. The appropriation of water from Well 1 in Lostine River Basin for irrigation is allowable under the Grande Ronde Basin Program (OAR 690-508-0020).
4. Groundwater will likely be available within the capacity of the resource, and if properly conditioned, the proposed use of groundwater will avoid injury to existing groundwater rights.

The Department has determined, based upon OAR 690-009, that the proposed groundwater use will not have the potential for substantial interference with any surface water source.

5. The proposed use is located above the Wallowa-Grande Ronde Scenic Waterway, as designated under Oregon Revised Statute 390.826.
6. Portions of the area proposed to be irrigated under this application are currently covered by an existing irrigation water right evidenced by Certificate 54099, which conflicts with this application. Please see the **Conflict Resolution Information** section below for more information.

Summary of Initial Determinations

The appropriation of 0.86 CFS of water from Well 1 in Lostine River Basin for irrigation of 68.5 acres may be allowable during the full period requested, April 1 through October 15 of each year, contingent upon resolution of the underlying water right conflict.

Because of these favorable determinations, the Department can now move the application to the next phase of the water-rights application review process, where public interest factors will be evaluated.

Conflict Resolution Information:

Portions of the area proposed to be irrigated under this application, being a total of 63.2 acres, are currently covered by an existing irrigation water right as evidenced by Certificate 54099, which conflicts with the application.

If you would like the conflicting portion of this application to be supplemental to the existing certificate, **the Department must receive a \$300.00 fee for the additional use** and a revised map showing the place of use of both the primary and supplemental lands. Please note the supplemental lands will be limited and/or jeopardized as follows:

- If the existing right is found to have been forfeited, the use which is supplemental to such certificate may also be canceled.
- You may only use the supplemental right after the primary right becomes unavailable. Water from the primary source must be exhausted first.
- The season of use for the supplemental irrigation will be limited to that of the primary right.

If you would like this application to be the primary right, the Department must receive:

- A completed form authorizing cancellation of the conflicting portions of the existing right, along with a map describing those portions; or
- A completed affidavit of diminution of the conflicting portions of the existing right to reduce them to supplemental use, along with a map describing those portions; or
- A transfer application addressing the conflicting portions of the existing right; or
- Another means of dealing with the conflict between the existing right and the use proposed under this application.
- At the time of perfection, the permittee may request that the use be certificated as primary irrigation, if water has been used beneficially according to the terms and conditions of this permit, and if underlying primary water rights are simultaneously diminished or canceled.

Please submit this information no later than Monday, September 28, 2015. 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.

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.

To Proceed With the Application:

If you choose to proceed with the application, you do not have to notify the Department. The 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.

Withdrawal Refunds:

If you choose not to proceed, you may withdraw the application and receive a refund (minus a \$225 processing charge per application). To accomplish this you must notify the Department in writing by **Friday, September 11, 2015**. For your convenience you may use the enclosed "STOP PROCESSING" form.

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

1. Measurement devices, and recording/reporting of annual water use 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 device in good working order.
 - B. The permittee shall allow the watermaster access to the device; provided however, where any device is located within a private structure, the watermaster shall request access upon reasonable notice.
 - C. The permittee shall keep a complete record of the volume of water diverted each month, and shall submit a report which includes 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.
 - D. The Director may provide an opportunity for the permittee to submit alternative measuring and reporting procedures for review and approval.

2. Static Water Level Conditions

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 Department may require the discontinuance of groundwater use, 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.

- 3. Use of water under authority of this permit may be regulated if analysis of data available after the permit is issued discloses that the appropriation will measurably reduce the surface water flows necessary to maintain the free-flowing character of a scenic waterway in quantities necessary for recreation, fish and wildlife in effect as of the priority date of the right or as those quantities may be subsequently reduced.
- 4. Groundwater production in the well shall be limited to a single aquifer in the Columbia River Basalt Group lavas. The well shall be cased and sealed into hard basalt below an elevation of approximately 3150 feet (depth of approximately 150 feet). The open interval in the well shall be no greater than 100 feet except as noted below. Open interval means the total length of borehole that is not behind sealed casing. The borehole above the open interval shall be continuously cased and continuously sealed to land surface. A larger open interval may be approved by the Department if the applicant can demonstrate, using packer tests or other suitable methods, that the hydraulic heads of water-bearing zones in the proposed open interval are equivalent or if the applicant can demonstrate that the open interval is part of a continuous zone of interconnected porous materials such as a sequence of pillow lavas or an hyaloclastite complex.

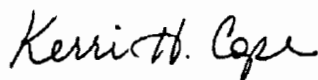
5. Prior to using water from any well listed on this permit, the permittee shall ensure that the well has been assigned an OWRD Well Identification Number (Well ID tag), which shall be permanently attached to the well. The Well ID shall be used as a reference in any correspondence regarding the well, including any reports of water use, water level, or pump test data.

The water source identified in the 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/programs/NaturalResources/Pages/AgWaterQuality.aspx> 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 503-986-0806 if you have any questions regarding the contents of this letter or the application. Please have the 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: Kerri H. Cope, Oregon Water Resources Department, 725 Summer St NE Ste A, Salem OR 97301-1266. Our fax number is 503-986-0901.

Sincerely,



Kerri H. Cope
Water Right Application Caseworker

enclosures: Application Process Description and Stop Processing Request Form

G-18108
WAB 8-No PSI
POU 8-No PSI
GW

APPLICATION FACT SHEET

Application File Number: G-18108

Applicant: ROBERT B PERRY

County: Wallowa

Watermaster: 7

Priority Date: June 23, 2015

Source: WELL 1 IN LOSTINE RIVER BASIN

Use: IRRIGATION OF 68.5 ACRES

Quantity: 0.86 CUBIC FOOT PER SECOND

Basin Name & Number: Grande Ronde, #8

Stream Index Reference: Volume 2 LOSTINE R

Well Location: NWSW, SECTION 3, T1S, R43E, W.M.; 1247 FEET SOUTH AND 608 FEET EAST FROM W1/4 CORNER, SECTION 3

Place of Use:

SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ 7.5 ACRES
NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 21.0 ACRES
SECTION 3

SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ 40.0 ACRES
SECTION 4
TOWNSHIP 1 SOUTH, RANGE 43 EAST, W.M.

14 DAY STOP PROCESSING DEADLINE DATE: Friday, September 11, 2015

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: Tuesday, September 1, 2015

30 DAY COMMENT DEADLINE DATE: Thursday, October 1, 2015