

**Oregon Water Resources Department  
Water Right Services Division**

**Application for Extension of Time**

In the Matter of the Application for an Extension of Time	)	
for Permit S-31979 (modified by Permit Amendment T-7862),	)	PROPOSED FINAL
Water Right Application S-42767	)	ORDER
in the name of Southwest Lincoln County Water District	)	

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**Permit Information**

Application:	S-42767
Permit:	S-31979 (modified by Permit Amendment T-7862)
Basin:	18 – Mid Coast / Watermaster District 1
Date of Priority:	September 6, 1966
Source of Water:	Vingie Creek, a tributary of Pacific Ocean
Purpose of Use:	Domestic
Maximum Rate:	0.30 cubic foot per second (cfs)

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***Please read this Proposed Final Order in its entirety.***

*In summary, the Department proposes to:*

- Grant an extension of time to complete construction of the water system from October 1, 2001 to October 1, 2003.
- Grant an extension of time to apply water to full beneficial use from October 1, 2001 to October 1, 2003.<sup>1</sup>

This Extension of Time request is being processed in accordance with Oregon Revised Statute 537.230 and 539.010(5), and Oregon Administrative Rule Chapter 690, Division 315

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<sup>1</sup>For permits applied for or received on or before July 9, 1987, upon complete development of the permit, you must notify the Department that the work has been completed and either: (1) Hire a water right examiner certified under ORS 537.798 to conduct a survey, the original to be submitted as required by the Water Resources Department, for issuance of a water right certificate; or (2) Continue to appropriate water under the water right permit until the Water Resources Department conducts a survey and issues a water right certificate under ORS 537.250 or 537.625.

## **ACRONYM QUICK REFERENCE**

Department – Oregon Water Resources Department

PFO – Proposed Final Order

cfs – cubic feet per second

## **AUTHORITY**

**Generally, see ORS 537.230 and OAR Chapter 690 Division 315.**

**ORS 537.230(3)** provides in pertinent part that the Oregon Water Resources Department (Department) may, for good cause shown, order an extension of time within which irrigation or other works 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 S-31979 was issued by the Department on June 5, 1967. The permit authorizes the use of up to 0.30 cfs of water from Vingie Creek, a tributary of Pacific Ocean, for domestic use. The permit specified actual construction was to begin by June 5, 1968 and construction of the water system was to be completed by October 1, 1969, and complete application of water was to be made on or before October 1, 1970.
2. On June 15, 1998 the Department approved Permit Amendment T-7862 (Special Order Volume 52, Page 564) authorizing a change in the point of appropriation and a change in the place of use under Permit S-31979. Here forward, the permit will simply be referred to as Permit S-31979.
3. Six prior permit extensions have been granted for Permit S-31979. The most recent extension resulted in the completion dates for construction being extended to October 1, 2001 and full application of water being extended to October 1, 2001.

4. The permit holder, Southwest Lincoln County Water District, submitted an "Application for Extension of Time" to the Department on October 2, 2015, requesting the time in which to accomplish beneficial use of water to the full extend under the terms of Permit S-31979 be extended from October 1, 2001, to October 1, 2003. The extension application form clearly suggests that construction is not complete. The Department, therefore, determined that the permit holder's intent was to also request the time in which to complete construction of the water systems under Permit S-31979 to be extended from October 1, 2001, to October 1, 2003.
5. Notification of the Application for Extension of Time for Permit S-31979 was published in the Department's Public Notice dated October 6, 2015. 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 537.230<sup>2</sup>, 537.248<sup>3</sup> and/or 539.010(5)<sup>4</sup>.*

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

6. On October 2, 2015, 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)]**

7. The Department issued six prior extensions.

**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.*

8. As of October 2, 2015, the permit holder states the remaining work to be completed is upgrades to the water delivery system. Construction of the water system is complete and application of water has been put to full beneficial use.
9. Given the amount of development left to occur, the Department has determined that the permit holder's request to have until October 1, 2003, to complete construction of the water system and to accomplish the application of water to beneficial use under the terms and conditions of Permit S-31979 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*

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<sup>2</sup>ORS 537.230 applies to surface water permits only.

<sup>3</sup>ORS 537.248 applies to reservoir permits only.

<sup>4</sup>ORS 539.010(5) applies to surface water and ground water permits.

OAR 690-315-0040(2).

**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)]**

10. The permit holder states work was accomplished within the time allowed in the permit or previous extension as follows:
  - a. During the most recent extension period, being from October 1, 1970, to October 1, 2001, the following was accomplished:
    - Construction of a reinforced concrete intake structure and access road;
    - Pumps, an in-line flow meter, fish screens, slide gates, mud valves, and piping were installed.

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

11. According to the water user a maximum rate of 0.30 cfs of water has been appropriated from Vingie Creek for domestic use.
12. According to the permit holder delay of full beneficial use of water under Permit G-31979 was due, in part, to the size and scope of the project to construct a water delivery system.

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

13. The water right permit holder's conformance with the permit or previous extension conditions.
  - a. The Department has considered the permit holder's compliance with conditions, and did not identify any concerns. The record does show the permit holder has installed an in-line flow water meter.

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

14. As of October 2, 2015, the permit holder states they have invested approximately \$128,850, which is the total projected cost for complete development of this project.

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

15. The Department has found good faith of the appropriator under Permit S-31979.

**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:*

16. 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)].
  - a. The amount of water available to satisfy other affected water rights and scenic waterway flows was determined at the time of issuance of Permit S-31979; 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 diversion is located on Vingie Creek, a tributary of Pacific Ocean, and is not located within a Withdrawn Area. Vingie Creek, a tributary of Pacific Ocean is not located within or above a state or federal scenic waterway, however, and it is located within an area ranked "low" 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 diversion is not in a location listed by the Department of Environmental Quality as a water quality limited stream.
17. Other economic interests dependent on completion of the project [OAR 690-315-0040(4)(e)].
  - a. None have been identified.
18. Other factors relevant to the determination of the market and present demand for water and power [OAR 690-315-0040(4)(f)].
  - a. None have been identified.

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

19. 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)]**

20. According to the permit holder, delay in the development of this project was caused by other governmental requirements. The Southwest Lincoln County Water District determined the permit could not be developed in 1997, because the U.S.D.A. Forest Service would not allow the Water District to construct a road on Forest Service

property to the diversion site. Another diversion site had to be located, and the point of diversion authorized by the permit was changed through the Department's approval of T-7862 on June 15, 1998.

**Unforeseen Events /OAR 690-315-0040(2)(h)/**

21. 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 537.230(3).
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 did not comply with begin actual construction timeline requirements pursuant to ORS 537.230 as required by OAR 690-315-0040(1)(b) and OAR 690-315-0040(5).
4. Completion of construction and full application of water to beneficial use can be accomplished by October 1, 2003<sup>5</sup>, 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 complete construction and apply water to full beneficial use pursuant to OAR 690-315-0040(1)(d).

**Continued on the following page**

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<sup>5</sup>Pursuant to ORS 537.230(3), 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.

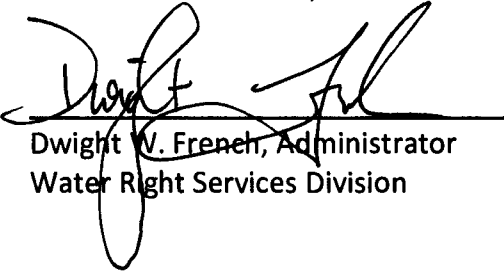
## PROPOSED ORDER

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

Extend the time to complete construction of the water system under Permit S-31979 from October 1, 2001 to October 1, 2003.

Extend the time to apply water to beneficial use under Permit S-31979 from October 1, 2001 to October 1, 2003.

DATED: November 10, 2015



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.*

### Proposed Final Order Hearing Rights

1. Under the provisions of OAR 690-315-0100(1) and 690-315-0060, the applicant or any other person adversely affected or aggrieved by the proposed final order may submit a written protest to the proposed final order. The written protest must be received by the Water Resources Department no later than **December 25, 2015**, being 45 days from the date of publication of the proposed final order in the Department's weekly notice.
2. A written protest shall include:
  - a. The name, address and telephone number of the petitioner;
  - b. A description of the petitioner's interest in the proposed final order and if the protestant claims to represent the public interest, a precise statement of the public interest represented;
  - c. A detailed description of how the action proposed in the proposed final order would adversely affect or aggrieve the petitioner's interest;
  - d. A detailed description of how the proposed final order is in error or deficient and how to correct the alleged error or deficiency;
  - e. Any citation of legal authority supporting the petitioner, if known;
  - f. Proof of service of the protest upon the water right permit holder, if petitioner is other than the water right permit holder; and
  - g. The applicant or non-applicant protest fee required under ORS 536.050.

3. Within 60 days after the close of the period for requesting a contested case hearing, the Director shall:
  - a. Issue a final order on the extension request; or
  - b. Schedule a contested case hearing if a protest has been submitted, and:
    - 1) Upon review of the issues, the Director finds there are significant disputes related to the proposed agency action; or
    - 2) The applicant submits a written request for a contested case hearing within 30 days after the close of the period for submitting protests.

**NOTICE TO ACTIVE DUTY SERVICEMEMBERS:** Active Duty servicemembers have a right to stay these proceedings under federal Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. For more information contact the Oregon State Bar at 800-452-8260, the Oregon Military Department at 800-452-7500 or the nearest United States Armed Forces Legal Assistance Office through <http://legalassistance.law.of.mil>

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- If you have any questions about statements contained in this document, please contact Corey A Courchane at (503) 986-0825.
  - If you have questions about how to file a protest or if you have previously filed a protest and you want to know the status, please contact Patricia McCarty at 503-986-0820.
  - If you have any questions about the Department or any of its programs, please contact our Water Resources Customer Service Group at 503-986-0801.
  - Address any correspondence to : Water Right Services Division  
725 Summer St NE, Suite A  
Salem, OR 97301-1266  
Fax: 503-986-0901
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## Mailing List for Extension PFO Copies

PFO Date: November 10, 2015

Copies Mailed

Application: S-42767

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Permit: S-31979

On: \_\_\_\_\_

### Original mailed to Applicant:

Southwest Lincoln County Water District  
PO Box 368  
Waldport, OR 97394-0368

### Copies sent to:

1. WRD - App. File S-42767/ Permit S-31979
2. Dyer Partnership Engineers & Planners, Inc.  
Attn: Barbara Negherbon  
1330 Teakwood Ave  
Coos Bay, OR 97420

### Fee paid as specified under ORS 536.050 to receive copy:

3. None

### Receiving via e-mail (10 AM Tuesday of signature date)

(DONE BY EXTENSION SPECIALIST)

4. WRD - Watermaster District 1, Nikki Hendricks

CASEWORKER: CAC