

**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 G-16420, Water Right Application G-16967,        )  
in the name of William L Romans and Cindy R Romans        )        **PROPOSED FINAL ORDER**

---

Permit Information

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Application:      | G-16967                                    |
| Permit:           | G-16420                                    |
| Basin:            | 10 – Malheur / Watermaster District 9      |
| Date of Priority: | November 23, 2007                          |
| Source of Water:  | A Well (MALH 53231) in Bully Creek Basin   |
| Purpose of Use:   | Supplemental Irrigation use on 252.8 Acres |
| Maximum Rate:     | 3.16 cubic feet per second (cfs)           |

---

***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, 2013 to October 1, 2019.
- Grant an extension of time to apply water to full beneficial use from October 1, 2013 to October 1, 2019<sup>1</sup>.

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.

---

<sup>1</sup>Pursuant 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-16420 was issued by the Department on December 18, 2008. The permit authorizes the use of up to 3.16 cfs of water from a Well (MALH 53231) in Bully Creek Basin for supplemental irrigation use on 252.8 acres. The permit specified construction of the water system was to be completed by October 1, 2013, and complete application of water was to be made on or before October 1, 2013.
2. On October 31, 2012, an assignment from Maynard F. Alves to Northwest Farm Credit Services, FLCA, and William L. Romans and Cindy R. Romans was recorded in the records of the Department.

3. On December 17, 2013, an assignment from William L. Romans and Cindy R. Romans and Northwest Farm Credit Services, FLCA to William L. Romans and Cindy R. Romans was recorded in the records of the Department.
4. On February 19, 2015, a Claim of Beneficial Use (COBU) was submitted to the Department for review.
5. On February 19, 2015, an Application for Permanent Water Right Transfer was submitted to the Department, proposing to change the place of use and change a point of appropriation from lands that currently have a certified water right. Transfer application T-11983 is currently under review by the Department.
6. On March 2, 2015, the COBU was returned to the permit holder. The Department determined the COBU was filed prematurely, as lands requested for supplemental irrigation did not have an existing underlying primary right.
7. The permit holder, William and Cindy Romans, submitted an "Application for Extension of Time" to the Department on December 7, 2015, 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-16420 be extended from October 1, 2013 to October 1, 2019. This is the first permit extension requested for Permit G-16420.
8. Notification of the Application for Extension of Time for Permit G-16420 was published in the Department's Public Notice dated December 15, 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>, 537.630<sup>4</sup> and/or 539.010(5)<sup>5</sup>.*

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

9. On December 7, 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)]**

10. Construction of the well began prior to the complete application of water date specified

---

<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 537.630 applies to ground water permits only.

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

in the permit, being October 1, 2013. The permit holder states, construction of Well (MALH 53231) began March 20, 2007.

According to the well log received by the Department on November 5, 2007, Well (MALH 53231) construction began March 20, 2007. The Department has determined that the prosecution of the construction of the well began prior to October 1, 2013.

**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.*

11. As of December 7, 2015, the permit holder states the remaining work to be completed consists of completing construction of the water system; and applying water to full beneficial use.

Given the amount of development left to occur, the Department has determined that the permit holder's request to have until October 1, 2019, to complete construction of the water system and to accomplish the application of water to beneficial use under the terms and conditions of Permit G-16420 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).*

**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)]**

12. The application states, work was accomplished within the time allowed in the permit or previous extension as follows:
  - a. Construction of the well was completed prior to October 1, 2013. Construction of Well (MALH 53231) began March 20, 2007 and was completed October 20, 2007. A pump, flow meter, piping, and 2 pivots were installed by the previous landowner for 200.0 acres.
  - b. Work was completed during the original development time frame under Permit G-16420. The current landowner installed pipeline, wheel line, and a pivot for 42.0 acres.

The Department has determined that work has been accomplished prior to permit issuance, and within the time allowed in the permit, which provides evidence of good cause and reasonable diligence towards the complete application of water to a beneficial use.

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

13. The application states a maximum rate of 3.16 cfs of water has been appropriated from Well (MALH 53231) for supplemental irrigation of 252.8 acres.
14. Beneficial use of water has not yet been demonstrated under this permit, because not all of the lands requested for supplemental irrigation were covered by an existing underlying primary right by October 1, 2013.

The Department has determined that this extension will allow the permit holder to gain approval of Transfer application T-11983, in an effort to make proof of beneficial use of the water as required by Permit G-16420.

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

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

The Department records show that a totalizing flow meter was installed in 2007, and the March static water level measurement was submitted March 30, 2013. The Department records also show annual water use reporting was submitted for the 2013 irrigation season. The Department has determined the permit holder has complied with conditions as required by Permit G-16420.

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

16. The application states the permit holder has invested about \$397,500, which is the total projected cost for complete development of this project.

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

17. The Department has found good faith of the appropriator under Permit G-16420.

***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:*

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)].

18. 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-16420; 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-16420, located within the Bully Creek Basin, is not located within a limited or critical ground water area. Bully Creek is not located within or above any state or federal scenic waterway, however, it is located within an area ranked "high" 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)].***

19. 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)].***

20. None have been identified.

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

21. 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)]***

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

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

23. 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. Based on Finding of Facts 10 through 17, completion of construction and full application of water to beneficial use can be accomplished by October 1, 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 complete construction and 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 complete construction of the water system under Permit G-16420 from October 1, 2013 to October 1, 2019.

Extend the time to apply water to beneficial use under Permit G-16420 from October 1, 2013 to October 1, 2019.

DATED: January 19, 2016



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 **March 4, 2016**, 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>



- 
- If you have 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 503-986-0900.
  - Address any correspondence to :     Water Right Services Division  
  725 Summer St NE, Suite A  
Fax: 503-986-0901                                   Salem, OR 97301-1266
-

**Mailing List for Extension PFO Copies**

PFO Date: January 19, 2016

**Copies Mailed**

Application: G-16967

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

Permit: G-16420

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

**Original mailed to Applicant:**

William L Romans  
Cindy R Romans  
3801 Old Stage Rd  
Harper, OR 97906

**Copies sent to:**

1. WRD - App. File G-16967/ Permit G-16420
  
2. NANCY RORICK CONSULTING  
NANCY RORICK  
645 L LOOP  
BAKER CITY, OR 97814

**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 9, Ron Jacobs

CASEWORKER: CAC