

PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW FOR GROUNDWATER APPLICATIONS

TO: Water Rights Section Date August 31, 2016
 FROM: Groundwater Section J. Hackett
 SUBJECT: Application G- 18363 Reviewer's Name J. Hackett
 Supersedes review of _____ Date of Review(s) _____

PUBLIC INTEREST PRESUMPTION; GROUNDWATER

OAR 690-310-130 (1) *The Department shall presume that a proposed groundwater use will ensure the preservation of the public welfare, safety and health as described in ORS 537.525. Department staff review groundwater applications under OAR 690-310-140 to determine whether the presumption is established. OAR 690-310-140 allows the proposed use be modified or conditioned to meet the presumption criteria. This review is based upon available information and agency policies in place at the time of evaluation.*

A. GENERAL INFORMATION: Applicant's Name: Gary & Karen Wilde County: Gilliam

A1. Applicant(s) seek(s) 0.44 cfs from 1 well(s) in the John Day Basin,
 _____ subbasin

A2. Proposed use Irrigation Seasonality: March 1 – October 31

A3. Well and aquifer data (attach and number logs for existing wells; mark proposed wells as such under logid):

Well	Logid	Applicant's Well #	Proposed Aquifer*	Proposed Rate(cfs)	Location (T/R-S QQ-Q)	Location, metes and bounds, e.g. 2250' N, 1200' E fr NW cor S 36
1	GILL 277	1	CRB	0.44	1S/21E-3 SE-SW	4480' S, 2322' E fr NW cor S 3
2						
3						
4						
5						

* Alluvium, CRB, Bedrock

Well	Well Elev ft msl	First Water ft bls	SWL ft bls	SWL Date	Well Depth (ft)	Seal Interval (ft)	Casing Intervals (ft)	Liner Intervals (ft)	Perforations Or Screens (ft)	Well Yield (gpm)	Draw Down (ft)	Test Type
1	955	396	124	6/27/1995	530	0-19	+1-19			1000+		A

Use data from application for proposed wells.

A4. **Comments:** _____

A5. **Provisions of the** John Day Basin rules relative to the development, classification and/or management of groundwater hydraulically connected to surface water are, or are not, activated by this application. (Not all basin rules contain such provisions.)

Comments: _____

A6. **Well(s) #** _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, tap(s) an aquifer limited by an administrative restriction.

Name of administrative area: _____
 Comments: _____

B. GROUNDWATER AVAILABILITY CONSIDERATIONS, OAR 690-310-130, 400-010, 410-0070

B1. Based upon available data, I have determined that groundwater* for the proposed use:

- a. is over appropriated, is not over appropriated, or cannot be determined to be over appropriated during any period of the proposed use. * This finding is limited to the groundwater portion of the over-appropriation determination as prescribed in OAR 690-310-130;
- b. will not or will likely be available in the amounts requested without injury to prior water rights. * This finding is limited to the groundwater portion of the injury determination as prescribed in OAR 690-310-130;
- c. will not or will likely to be available within the capacity of the groundwater resource; or
- d. will, if properly conditioned, avoid injury to existing groundwater rights or to the groundwater resource:
 - i. The permit should contain condition #(s) Special Condition below and Large water-use reporting;
 - ii. The permit should be conditioned as indicated in item 2 below.
 - iii. The permit should contain special condition(s) as indicated in item 3 below;

- B2. a. Condition to allow groundwater production from no deeper than _____ ft. below land surface;
- b. Condition to allow groundwater production from no shallower than _____ ft. below land surface;
- c. Condition to allow groundwater production only from the _____ groundwater reservoir between approximately _____ ft. and _____ ft. below land surface;
- d. Well reconstruction is necessary to accomplish one or more of the above conditions. The problems that are likely to occur with this use and without reconstructing are cited below. Without reconstruction, I recommend withholding issuance of the permit until evidence of well reconstruction is filed with the Department and approved by the Groundwater Section.

Describe injury –as related to water availability– that is likely to occur without well reconstruction (interference w/ senior water rights, not within the capacity of the resource, etc): _____

B3. **Groundwater availability remarks:** The applicant’s well is located in an area that contains basalt flows of the Columbia River Basalt Group (CRBG) from land surface to depths of several thousand feet. Within the CRBG, most water occurs in confined aquifers that occupy thin rubble zones (interflow zones) at the contacts between lava flows. The interiors of the basalt flows generally have low porosity and permeability and act as confining beds. This geometry generally produces a stack of thin aquifers (interflow zones) separated by thick confining beds (flow interiors). The low permeability of the basalt flow interiors probably limits the natural vertical connection between overlying aquifers.

Local geologic mapping (Swanson and others, 1981; Anderson, unpublished mapping) indicates that the applicant’s well should encounter the following basalt flow units from shallow to deep: Frenchman Springs Member of the Wanapum Basalt Formation and Sentinel Bluffs Basalt of the Grande Ronde Basalt Formation. The well log identifies two water-bearing zones (396-412 feet below land surface and 525-530 feet below land surface), that are both likely in the Sentinel Bluffs Basalt. Water levels in nearby State Observation Well GILL 60 have been fairly stable over the past two decades; however, it is uncertain if GILL 60 is completed in the same aquifer as the applicant’s well (see attached hydrograph).

The applicant’s well is located in an area that has a relatively high density of irrigation and domestic wells. As a result, I have concerns that the added stress imposed on the groundwater system has the potential to result in water level declines or undue interference with other groundwater users. However, the modified water level measurement and decline condition listed below, if properly enforced, should protect against excessive interference and declines.

SPECIAL CONDITION:

The Department requires the water user to allow Department Staff access to measure an annual static water level for each well on the permit. The static water level shall be measured in the month of March.

An initial March measurement in 2017 will establish a reference level against which future measurements will be compared. 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.

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.

C. GROUNDWATER/SURFACE WATER CONSIDERATIONS, OAR 690-09-040

C1. **690-09-040 (1):** Evaluation of aquifer confinement:

Well	Aquifer or Proposed Aquifer	Confined	Unconfined
1	CRB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Basis for aquifer confinement evaluation: The Columbia River basalt aquifers are confined by the dense flow interiors that restrict vertical movement of groundwater. Nearby CRBG well logs report static water levels above the water-bearing zone, indicating a confined aquifer or series of aquifers.

C2. **690-09-040 (2) (3):** Evaluation of distance to, and hydraulic connection with, surface water sources. All wells located a horizontal distance less than ¼ mile from a surface water source that produce water from an unconfined aquifer shall be assumed to be hydraulically connected to the surface water source. Include in this table any streams located beyond one mile that are evaluated for PSI.

Well	SW #	Surface Water Name	GW Elev ft msl	SW Elev ft msl	Distance (ft)	Hydraulically Connected?			Potential for Subst. Interfer. Assumed?	
						YES	NO	ASSUMED	YES	NO
1	1	Rock Creek	820	900-980	100	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Basis for aquifer hydraulic connection evaluation: Water-bearing zones in the applicant's well are several hundred feet below the local reach of Rock Creek and the water level in the well is approximately 100 feet below Rock Creek. Both of these factors indicate a lack of hydraulic connection between the applicant's well and Rock Creek.

Water Availability Basin the well(s) are located within: #70251: ROCK CR > JOHN DAY R – AT MOUTH

C3a. **690-09-040 (4):** Evaluation of stream impacts for each well that has been determined or assumed to be **hydraulically connected and less than 1 mile** from a surface water source. Limit evaluation to instream rights and minimum stream flows that are pertinent to that surface water source, and not lower SW sources to which the stream under evaluation is tributary. Compare the requested rate against the 1% of 80% *natural* flow for the pertinent Water Availability Basin (WAB). If Q is not distributed by well, use full rate for each well. Any checked box indicates the well is assumed to have the potential to cause PSI.

Well	SW #	Well < ¼ mile?	Qw > 5 cfs?	Instream Water Right ID	Instream Water Right Q (cfs)	Qw > 1% ISWR?	80% Natural Flow (cfs)	Qw > 1% of 80% Natural Flow?	Interference @ 30 days (%)	Potential for Subst. Interfer. Assumed?
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

C3b. **690-09-040 (4):** Evaluation of stream impacts by total appropriation for all wells determined or assumed to be **hydraulically connected and less than 1 mile** from a surface water source. **Complete only if Q is distributed among wells.** Otherwise same evaluation and limitations apply as in C3a above.

	SW #	Qw > 5 cfs?	Instream Water Right ID	Instream Water Right Q (cfs)	Qw > 1% ISWR?	80% Natural Flow (cfs)	Qw > 1% of 80% Natural Flow?	Interference @ 30 days (%)	Potential for Subst. Interfer. Assumed?
		<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments: _____

C4a. **690-09-040 (5):** Estimated impacts on **hydraulically connected surface water sources greater than one mile** as a percentage of the proposed pumping rate. Limit evaluation to the effects that will occur up to one year after pumping begins. This table encompasses the considerations required by 09-040 (5)(a), (b), (c) and (d), which are not included on this form. Use additional sheets if calculated flows from more than one WAB are required.

Non-Distributed Wells													
Well	SW#	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Well Q as CFS													
Interference CFS													
Distributed Wells													
Well	SW#	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Well Q as CFS													
Interference CFS													
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Well Q as CFS													
Interference CFS													
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Well Q as CFS													
Interference CFS													
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Well Q as CFS													
Interference CFS													
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Well Q as CFS													
Interference CFS													
(A) = Total Interf.													
(B) = 80 % Nat. Q													
(C) = 1 % Nat. Q													
(D) = (A) > (C)													
(E) = (A / B) x 100		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

(A) = total interference as CFS; (B) = WAB calculated natural flow at 80% exceed. as CFS; (C) = 1% of calculated natural flow at 80% exceed. as CFS; (D) = highlight the checkmark for each month where (A) is greater than (C); (E) = total interference divided by 80% flow as percentage.

Basis for impact evaluation: _____

C4b. **690-09-040 (5) (b) The potential to impair or detrimentally affect the public interest is to be determined by the Water Rights Section.**

C5. **If properly conditioned**, the surface water source(s) can be adequately protected from interference, and/or groundwater use under this permit can be regulated if it is found to substantially interfere with surface water:
 i. The permit should contain condition #(s) _____;
 ii. The permit should contain special condition(s) as indicated in "Remarks" below;

C6. **SW / GW Remarks and Conditions:** _____

References Used: _____
Swanson, D.A., Anderson, J.L., Camp, V.E., Hooper, P.R., Taubeneck, W.H., and Wright, T.L., 1981, Reconnaissance Geologic Map of the Columbia River Basalt Group, Northern Oregon and Western Idaho, U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 81-797, 20 p., 6 plates.

Anderson, J.L., unpublished geologic mapping of Shutler Flats and Mikkalo 7.5 minute quadrangles.

D. WELL CONSTRUCTION, OAR 690-200

D1. Well #: _____ Logid: _____

D2. **THE WELL does not appear to meet current well construction standards based upon:**

- a. review of the well log;
- b. field inspection by _____;
- c. report of CWRE _____;
- d. other: (specify) _____

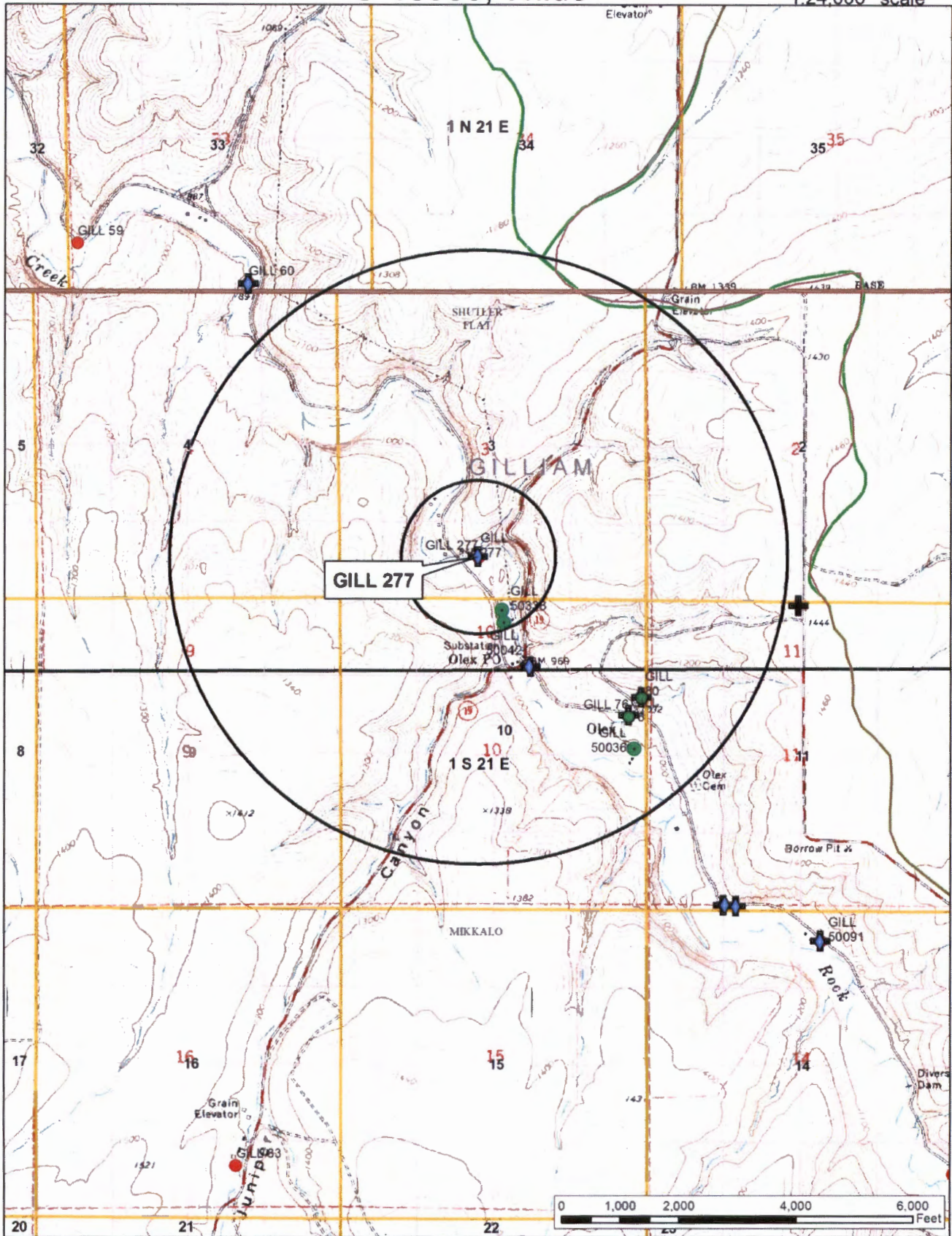
D3. **THE WELL construction deficiency or other comment is described as follows:** _____

D4. **Route to the Well Construction and Compliance Section for a review of existing well construction.**

Well Location Map

G-18363, Wilde

1:24,000 scale



Water-Level Trends in Nearby Wells

