

**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-15163, Water Right Application G-15302, in)	PROPOSED
the name of Kent or Monica Bailey;)	FINAL ORDER
John and Kathryn Rohner)	

Permit Information

Application:	G-15302
Permit:	G-15163
Basin:	9 – Powder / Watermaster District 8
Date of Priority:	January 18, 2001
Source of Water:	A well in Powder River Basin
Purpose or Use:	Irrigation of 55.61 acres
Maximum Rate:	1.0 cubic foot per second (cfs)

Please read this Proposed Final Order in its entirety.

In Summary, the Department proposes to:

- Grant an extension of time to apply water to full beneficial use from October 1, 2006 to October 1, 2021¹.

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

Application – Application for Extension of Time

PFO – Proposed Final Order

cfs – cubic feet per second

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 groundwater 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. On August 20, 2002, Permit G-15163 was issued by the Department. The permit authorizes the use of up to 1.0 cfs of water from a well in Powder River Basin for irrigation of 55.61 acres. The permit specified complete application of water was to be made on or before October 1, 2006.
2. On April 6, 2015, the Department issued a letter to the permit holder of record by certified mail, requesting either a Claim of Beneficial Use or an extension of time be submitted, or cancellation proceedings for Permit G-15163 would begin. This letter was returned to the Department on April 14, 2015, as not deliverable as addressed, unable to forward which prompted the Department to determine the current landowner or mailing address.

3. On April 9, 2015, the Department determined the area of use as authorized by Permit G-15163 comprised of three separate tax lots, with each tax lot involving a separate landowner.
4. On June 22, 2015, the Department issued a second letter to the landowners of record by certified mail, requesting either a Claim of Beneficial Use or an extension of time be submitted, or cancellation proceedings for Permit G-15163 would begin. One of the letters was returned to the Department on July 27, 2015, as unclaimed, unable to forward.
5. On July 9, 2015, Dan Blankenship, landowner of the 5.0 acre parcel located at Township 9 South, Range 39 East, Section 13A, Tax Lot 1400, informed the Department that he would like to be excluded, as he would not be using any water from the well on the 5.0 acres he currently owns.
6. On January 12, 2016, a partial assignment by proof from Steve Adams to John and Kathryn Rohner was recorded in the records of the Water Resources Department.
7. On June 28, 2016, an assignment by proof from Steve Adams to Kent or Monica Bailey was recorded in the records of the Water Resources Department.
8. Department records show John and Kathryn Rohner and Kent or Monica Bailey as the permit holders of record. Township 9 South, Range 39 East, Section 13A, Tax lot 1300 is under the ownership of Kent J. and Monica M. Bailey, covering 10.59 acres. Township 9 South, Range 40 East, Section 18A, Tax lot 100 is under the ownership of Steven Douglas Adams, Trustee and John A. Rohner, Trustee, covering 40.0 acres. Township 9 South, 39 East, Section 13A, Tax lot 1400, covering 5.02 acres is under the ownership of Dan and Sheryl Blankenship, Trustee, who wish to be excluded.
9. On August 24, 2016, the permit holder, Kent and Monica Bailey, submitted an "Application for Extension of Time" to the Department, requesting the time to apply water to full beneficial use under the terms and conditions of Permit G-15163 be extended from October 1, 2006 to October 1, 2021. This is the first permit extension requested for Permit G-15163.
10. Notification of the Application for Extension of Time for Permit G-15163 was published in the Department's Public Notice dated August 30, 2016. 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)]

11. On August 24, 2016, 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)]

12. Construction of the well began prior to permit issuance. The permit holder states, construction of Well #1 (L23712) began May 20, 2000.

According to the well log received by the Department on September 7, 2000, construction of Well #1 (BAKE 50747) began May 20, 2000. The Department has determined that the prosecution of the construction of the well began prior to October 1, 2006.

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.

13. As of August 24, 2016, the Application states the remaining work to be completed consists of meeting all permit conditions, including installing a meter, 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, 2021, to accomplish the application of water to beneficial use under the terms and conditions of Permit G-15163 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:

²ORS 537.230 applies to surface water permits only.

³ORS 537.248 applies to reservoir permits only.

⁴ORS 537.630 applies to groundwater permits only.

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

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

14. 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, 2006. Construction of Well #1 (BAKE 50747) began May 20, 2000 and was completed June 24, 2000.
- b. Work was completed during the original development time frame under Permit G-15163 consisting of mainline, wheel line, and risers being installed.
- c. No work has been accomplished towards developing Permit G-15163 since 2003.

The Application provides evidence of progress of physical work made towards completion of the water system, enough to qualify as the minimum necessary for the Department to find good cause and reasonable diligence towards complete application of water to a beneficial use.

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

15. The Application states an estimated maximum rate of 0.34 cfs of water has been appropriated from Well #1 (BAKE 50747) for irrigation of 15.61 acres.
16. Beneficial use of water has not yet been demonstrated under this permit because not all permit conditions were satisfied by October 1, 2006.

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

17. The Department has considered the permit holder's compliance with conditions, and has identified the following concerns: (1) the record does not show that a meter or other suitable measuring device has been installed.

The Department has determined that this extension will allow the meter installed after October 1, 2006 to satisfy compliance of the condition of "Before water use may begin under this permit, the permittee shall install a meter or other suitable measuring device as approved by the Director," in an effort to make proof of beneficial use of the water as required by Permit G-15163.

Beneficial use of water under this permit, therefore, has not yet been demonstrated. In order to legally perfect the use of water under this permit, the permit holder must demonstrate that all conditions of the permit have been satisfied.

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

18. The Application states the permit holder has invested about \$67,500, which is approximately 97 percent of the total projected cost for complete development of this project. The permit holder anticipates an additional \$1,750 investment is needed for the

completion of this project.

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

19. The Department has found good faith of the appropriator under Permit G-15163.

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)].

20. A review of 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-15163; 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.
21. During a current review of Permit G-15163, the Department determined the following:
 - a. The point of appropriation for Permit G-15163, located within the Powder River Basin, is not located within a limited or critical groundwater area.
 - b. Powder River is not located within or above any state or federal scenic waterway.
 - c. It is located within an area ranked "moderate" 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.
 - d. 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)].

22. No other economic interests have been identified.

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 Regarding Service Members: Active duty service members have a right to stay proceedings under the federal Service Members Civil Relief Act. 50 U.S.C. App. §§501-597b. You may contact the Oregon State Bar or the Oregon Military Department for more information. The toll-free telephone number for the Oregon State Bar is: 1 (800) 452-8260. The toll-free telephone number of the Oregon Military Department is: 1 (800) 452-7500. The Internet address for the United States Armed Forces Legal Assistance Legal Services Locator website is: <http://legalassistance.law.af.mil>

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- 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
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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-15163 from October 1, 2006 to October 1, 2021.

DATED: October 11, 2016


Dwight 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 **November 25, 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.

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 - a. Issue a final order on the extension request; or
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 - 1) Upon review of the issues, the Director finds there are significant disputes related to the proposed agency action; or
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