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Department of Water Resources

October 21, 2001

State of Idaho Department of Water Resources
Mr. Norman Young
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0098

McCammon Ditch Co.
10192 S. Hall Rd.
McCammon, ID 83250

Dear Sir:

As water users on the Portneuf River Water District No. 29 we are concerned about several issues that should be addressed during the adjudication. In conjunction with the request for comments on the Comprehensive State Water Plan Rules due October 24, please consider the following:

- 1-The comprehensive study should be inclusive to the full meaning of the word in addressing the water issues facing us statewide as well as district wide.
- 2-Please address the following issues concerning our district.
 - A. Allowing 1950 permit storage in Chesterfield Reservoir after April 15th is causing severe water loss to prior-right holders on the Portneuf River as proven by the Topaz Gauge this year.
 - B. Water transported from Chesterfield Reservoir via the Portneuf River loss free affects downstream water users. The opinion that when the reservoir shuts off our displaced water then returns to the channel does not prove to be valid. If this were the case, after our displaced water returns to the channel we should see a decrease in water flow some time after, indicating that there is no shrink to deliver the reservoir water. However this is not the case. Records indicate that we have an increase in water after the reservoir shuts down and for some time after the displaced water should have already moved through the channel. This indicates to us that there is definitely shrink in transporting the reservoir water down the river channel.
 - C. Measure evaporation in the Chesterfield Reservoir.
 - D. Automatic 24-hour recording devices should be installed where decree calls for them and adequate measuring devices and controllable headgates installed elsewhere in the system---for example: Chesterfield Reservoir discharge and Portneuf Marsh Valley Canal Co. and Portneuf Irrigating diversion.
 - E. Hire an honest, ambitious, and competent river man to deliver all water correctly, as called for by the decree. He should be monitored and supported by the Idaho Department of Water Resources.
 - F. Permits have been given for water that has been given prior rights. This must stop.

- G. The river man should monitor Portneuf and Marsh Creek including all tributaries below the McCammon Diversion. This has not always been done in the past. All users should pay a river assessment.
- H. All pump rights must be regulated and monitored correctly according to first-in-time, first-in-right law for both well and surface diversions.
- I. Extend irrigation season to October 15th.
- J. Address all water rights after September 15th, including stockwater so as to inform all users of usage rights.
- K. If the reservoir gates are closed for storage September 15th, can Portneuf Marsh Valley Canal Co. continue to divert water from the lower river? Who own the rights after this date?
- L. Address hydro issues that are directly associated with river rights.
- M. Honor first-in-time, first-in-right law for all water users.

Your cooperation in these matters is appreciated.

Sincerely,

McCammon Ditch Company

Board Members:

Howard Hall

Howard Tomrill

Blaney

Jim Guthrie

Cc: Tim Luke