



Governor Brad Little

Director Mathew Weaver

August 16, 2024

RE: Boise Front Low Temperature Geothermal GWMA - Order Granting Request for Hearing

Dear Water Right Owner, Permit Holder, Applicant and/or Interested Party,

You are receiving this letter because you own a water right or permit, you previously filed a permit application to establish a new water right, or you have been identified as an interested party to a previously filed permit or application to divert ground water within the Boise Front Low Temperature Geothermal Ground Water Management Area (“Boise Front GWMA”). The enclosed order grants a hearing regarding the current moratorium on further development or use of low temperature (85°F to 212°F) geothermal ground water within the Boise Front GWMA. The Idaho Department of Water Resources (“IDWR”) will hold an administrative hearing on the term of the Boise Front GWMA moratorium. If you have an interest in this matter, you can intervene or testify as a public witness at the yet-to-be scheduled hearing.

On May 3, 2024, IDWR’s Deputy Director signed an order extending the Boise Front GWMA moratorium. The moratorium prohibits approval of applications to appropriate water and limits development under existing permits to divert and use water in the Boise Front GWMA low temperature geothermal groundwater system lying within Townships 2, 3, and 4 North and Ranges 1, 2, and 3 East in Ada County.

On May 17, 2024, IDWR received a petition requesting IDWR hold an administrative hearing regarding the basis for the three-year duration of the moratorium extension. The enclosed *Order Granting Request for Hearing* (“Order”) grants that request. The Order limits the scope of the hearing to the duration of the current moratorium.

If you want to intervene in this proceeding, you *must* file a written petition to intervene by September 23, 2024. If you wish to participate as a public witness at the hearing, please notify IDWR by September 23, 2024. Your written petition or request to participate as a public witness can be filed with IDWR’s State Office, 322 E Front Street, Ste 648, PO Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0098; or IDWR’s Western Region, 2735 W Airport Way, Boise, ID 83705-5082; or emailed to IDWR at file@idwr.idaho.gov; or filed with another IDWR office.

The Boise Front GWMA *Order Extending Moratorium* and additional documents pertaining to this matter can be viewed on IDWR’s website at www.idwr.idaho.gov. You can email idwrinfo@idwr.idaho.gov or call IDWR’s State Office (208-287-4800) and ask to speak to the water rights office day staff member if you have additional questions.

Respectfully,

Phill Hummer
Water Rights Section Manager

Enc: Order Granting Request for Hearing *in the Matter of the Boise Front Low Temperature Geothermal Resource Ground Water Management Area*