

**BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OF THE STATE OF IDAHO**

IN THE MATTER OF DISTRIBUTION OF
WATER TO VARIOUS WATER RIGHTS
HELD BY OR FOR THE BENEFIT OF A&B
IRRIGATION DISTRICT, AMERICAN
FALLS RESERVOIR DISTRICT #2,
BURLEY IRRIGATION DISTRICT,
MILNER IRRIGATION DISTRICT,
MINIDOKA IRRIGATION DISTRICT,
NORTH SIDE CANAL COMPANY, AND
TWIN FALLS CANAL COMPANY

IN THE MATTER OF THE MITIGATION
PLAN FILED BY A&B IRRIGATION
DISTRICT FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF
WATER TO WATER RIGHTS HELD BY
THE SURFACE WATER COALITION

Docket No. CM-DC-2010-001
Docket No. CM-MP-2015-003

**ORDER STAYING HEARING RE:
A&B'S REQUEST FOR MITIGATION
CREDIT FOR AQUIFER
ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITIES**

BACKGROUND

On April 19, 2016, the Director ("Director") of the Idaho Department of Water Resources ("Department") issued the *Fourth Amended Final Order Regarding Methodology for Determining Material Injury to Reasonable In-Season Demand and Reasonable Carryover* ("Methodology Order"). The Methodology Order established nine steps for determining material injury to members of the Surface Water Coalition.

On April 19, 2016, the Director issued the *Final Order Regarding April Forecast Supply (Methodology Steps 1-3)* ("As-Applied Order"), which applied steps 1, 2, and 3 of the Methodology Order. The Director predicted an in-season demand shortfall ("DS") of 44,200 acre-feet. *As-Applied Order* at 3-4.

On May 2, 2016, A&B Irrigation District ("A&B") submitted to the Department *A&B Irrigation District's Notice of Mitigation* ("Notice"), identifying "various mitigation actions" to "mitigate for its 'proportionate share' of the predicted in-season [DS]." *Notice* at 2-3.

On May 11, 2016, the Director issued an *Order Determining Deficiency in A&B Irrigation District's Notice of Mitigation* ("Deficiency Order"). The Director declined to reduce

A&B's proportionate share of the predicted DS "because of the effects of aquifer enhancement activities," but decided to set and hear oral argument on the issue pursuant to the Department's Rule of Procedure 563. *Deficiency Order* at 3. The Director subsequently issued a *Notice of Pre-Hearing Conference* scheduling a pre-hearing conference on the issue for May 19, 2016, at 11:00 a.m.

On May 19, 2016, the Director held the pre-hearing conference. Counsel for A&B, the Idaho Ground Water Appropriators, Inc., and the City of Pocatello participated by teleconference. Counsel for A&B requested the Director stay the hearing on the issue of whether A&B's proportionate share of the predicted DS should be reduced because of the effects of aquifer enhancement activities.

ORDER

Based upon and consistent with the foregoing, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the hearing on the issue of whether A&B's proportionate share of the predicted DS should be reduced because of the effects of aquifer enhancement activities is STAYED.

DATED this 24th day of May 2016.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Gary Spackman", is written over a horizontal line.

Gary Spackman
Director

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 24th day of May 2016, the above and foregoing was served on the following by the method(s) indicated below:

John K. Simpson Travis L. Thompson Paul L. Arrington BARKER ROSHOLT & SIMPSON, LLP 195 RIVER VISTA PL STE 204 Twin Falls, ID 83301-3029 jks@idahowaters.com tlt@idahowaters.com pla@idahowaters.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U.S. Mail, postage prepaid <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email
W. Kent Fletcher FLETCHER LAW OFFICE P.O. Box 248 Burley, ID 83318 wkf@pmt.org	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U.S. Mail, postage prepaid <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email
Randall C. Budge Thomas J. Budge RACINE OLSON P.O. Box 1391 Pocatello, ID 83204-1391 rcb@racinelaw.net cmm@racinelaw.net tjb@racinelaw.net	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U.S. Mail, postage prepaid <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email
Kathleen M. Carr US Dept. Interior 960 Broadway Ste 400 Boise, ID 83706 kathleenmarion.carr@sol.doi.gov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U.S. Mail, postage prepaid <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email
David W. Gehlert Natural Resources Section Environment and Natural Resources Division U.S. Department of Justice 999 18th St. South Terrace, Ste 370 Denver, CO 80202 david.gehlert@usdoj.gov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U.S. Mail, postage prepaid <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email
Matt Howard US Bureau of Reclamation 1150 N Curtis Road Boise, ID 83706-1234 mhoward@usbr.gov	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Mail, postage prepaid <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email

Sarah A. Klahn Mitra M. Pemberton WHITE JANKOWSKI 511 16 th St., Ste. 500 Denver, CO 80202 sarahk@white-jankowski.com mitrap@white-jankowski.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U.S. Mail, postage prepaid <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email
Dean Tranmer City of Pocatello P.O. Box 4169 Pocatello, ID 83205 dtranmer@pocatello.us	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U.S. Mail, postage prepaid <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email
Chris M. Bromley McHugh Bromley, PLLC 380 South 4 th Street, Suite 103 Boise, ID 83702 cbromley@mchughbromley.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U.S. Mail, postage prepaid <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email
Robert E. Williams Williams Meservy & Lothspeich, LLP P.O. Box 168 Jerome, ID 83338 rewilliams@cableone.net	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U.S. Mail, postage prepaid <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email
Robert L. Harris Holden, Kidwell, Hahn & Crapo, PLLC P.O. Box 50130 Idaho Falls, ID 83405 rharris@holdenlegal.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U.S. Mail, postage prepaid <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email
Randall D. Fife City Attorney, City of Idaho Falls P.O. Box 50220 Idaho Falls, ID 83405 rfife@idahofallsidaho.gov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U.S. Mail, postage prepaid <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email
Lyle Swank IDWR—Eastern Region 900 N. Skyline Dr., Ste A Idaho Falls, ID 83402-1718 lyle.swank@idwr.idaho.gov	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Mail, postage prepaid <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email
Allen Merritt Cindy Yenter IDWR—Southern Region 1341 Fillmore St., Ste. 200 Twin Falls, ID 83301-3380 allen.merritt@idwr.idaho.gov cindy.yenter@idwr.idaho.gov	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Mail, postage prepaid <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email

COURTESY COPY TO:

William A. Parsons
PARSONS SMITH & STONE
P.O. Box 910
Burley, ID 83318
wparsons@pmt.org

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Deborah Gibson
Admin. Assistant for the Director