

**MARTEN LAW**

April 1, 2024

VIA EMAIL & HAND DELIVERY (Southern Regional Office)

Director Mat Weaver
Idaho Dept. of Water Resources
322 E. Front St.
Boise, Idaho 83720-0098

Re: 2024 Conjunctive Administration (Step 1 Methodology Order)

Dear Director Weaver:

We are writing on behalf of our clients A&B Irrigation District, Burley Irrigation District, Milner Irrigation District, North Side Canal Company, and Twin Falls Canal Company in response to your February 15, 2024 letter concerning Step 1 of the *Sixth Amended Methodology Order*.

With respect to the Step 1 requirement to confirm irrigated acreage for the year, our clients adopt and resubmit the letter that was delivered to the former Director for purposes of 2014 administration that is on file with IDWR in this matter.¹ As noted in that letter, all of our clients' decreed natural flow water rights identify the number of authorized acres to irrigate within their respective project boundaries. Accordingly, the Director is required to use the elements of the partial decrees for purposes of water right administration. I.C. §§ 42-607; 42-1420.

Further, enclosed herewith (via hand delivery to the Southern Regional Office) is a thumb drive with an updated shapefile for the Twin Falls Canal Company. TFCC has worked to revise the prior shapefile submitted in 2014 pursuant to a review of the most recent aerial imagery (2023). TFCC expects to submit an additional update to this shapefile in the near future as well.²

Our four remaining clients have confirmed that the expected irrigated area within each project this year has not varied by more than 5% from the existing information (electronic shape files) that have been submitted to you in prior years.

¹ Step 1 did not change for purposes of the various methodology orders.

² TFCC has updated the shapefile as best it could with available information based upon the updated imagery. Additional work is continuing regarding various urban and residential areas and that update is forthcoming.

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The number of irrigated acres identified by existing shape files on file with the SRBA Court or as submitted to you as explained above is as follows: A&B – 15,924³; BID – 46,083; Milner – 13,335; NSCC – 154,067; TFCC – 196,162.

If you have any questions please contact me at (208) 733-0700.

Sincerely,



Travis Thompson
Partner

Direct: (208) 735-2227
Email: tthompson@martenlaw.com

Enclosures

cc: Managers, clients

³ This is the number of acres associated with A&B's decreed natural flow surface water rights (1-14 et al.). The District is also delivering surface water to other District lands through "soft conversion" projects. See *Travis L. Thompson December 22, 2016 Letter to Director Spackman*.