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DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

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Attorney for Big Lost River Irrigation District

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

IN THE MATTER OF WHETHER TO)	BLRID'S PETITION TO INTERVENE
DESIGNATE THE BIG LOST RIVER)	
BASIN A CRITICAL GROUND WATER)	Filing Fee: Exempt
AREA OR A GROUND WATER)	I.C. § 67-2301
MANAGEMENT AREA)	

Big Lost River Irrigation District (BLRID), an irrigation district organized and operating pursuant to the laws of the State of Idaho, petitions the Director pursuant to Rules 350 through 354 of the Rules of Procedure of the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) and other applicable law to enter an order authorizing BLRID to intervene in the above entitled matter.

On March 23, 2017, the Director of the IDWR issued a *Notice of Prehearing Conference* setting a prehearing conference in this matter for May 3, 2017 (Notice) and a *Letter to Water Users* (Letter). The Letter and the rules of IDWR require parties who want to participate in the proceeding to file a petition to intervene by May 3, 2017.

BLRID does not own ground water rights. However, BLRID delivers natural flow surface water rights and storage rights to water users located in BLRID from diversions located on the Big Lost River. The interconnection between ground water depletions and surface water flows can materially affect the amount of water stored and the delivery of water rights. Further, BLRID is uniquely situated as the only irrigation district located on and diverting from the Big Lost River, a position that will require its participation in solutions to the declining aquifer located in the basin.

BLRID asserts that it should be allowed to intervene in the proceeding in order to participate in any negotiations and hearings that may affect BLRID and that address the water supply in the basin. BLRID has a direct and substantial interest in the outcome of this proceeding and should be allowed to intervene.

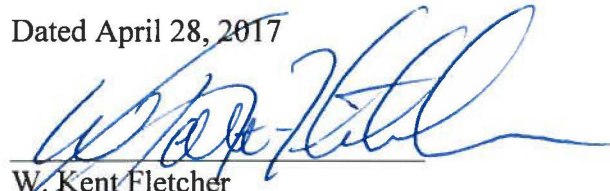
This petition is filed prior to the deadline established in the Scheduling Order.

For the purposes of this proceeding the name and address of BLRID shall be:

Big Lost River Irrigation District
c/o Fletcher Law Office
P.O. Box 248
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Wherefore, BLRID requests that the Director enter an order granting this Petition and authorizing the intervention of BLRID into this proceeding.

Dated April 28, 2017



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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have this 28th day of April, 2017, served the foregoing PETITION TO INTERVENE upon the Idaho Department of Water Resources, properly addressed with postage prepaid, as follows:

Gary Spackman, Director
Idaho Department of Water Resources
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0098



W. Kent Fletcher