



Aberdeen-Springfield Canal Company

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February 26, 2010

Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter
Boise, Idaho

Dear Governor Otter,

Aberdeen-Springfield Canal Company wishes to assure you that we remain fully committed to the success of the ESPA Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan. However, we wish to emphasize that our willingness to participate in funding the Plan is contingent upon involvement of all other entities.

While Aberdeen-Springfield Canal Company also has ground water rights that depend upon the ESPA, our contribution to the health of the aquifer (through incidental loss of surface water in our system) is not only proportionally large compared to our ground water rights, it is also well documented and perhaps better understood than anywhere else on the aquifer. Consequently, the benefits we see in management of the aquifer are not benefits that are directly attributable to us. Rather, our decision to participate was motivated by seeing the need for aquifer management, and understanding the 'greater good' to be served with respect to our neighbors, our region, and our State.

For this reason, we have not wavered from our commitment to this process since before your first Summit on this subject. We applaud and urge you to continue your efforts to keep all stake holders, whether they enjoy direct or indirect benefits from aquifer management, at the table and encouraged to offer not only their voice in support, but their dollars as well.

For the Board of Directors,

Steven T. Howser,
General Manager