501 E. 20 No.
Shoshone, ID 83352
(208) 886-7627

Donley Farms, Inc.

March 16, 2004

RECEIVED
MAR 18 2004
Department of Water Resources
Southern Region

TO: DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
Water District 130
1341 Fillmore St., Suite 200
Twin Falls, ID 83301

FROM: DONALD E. AND BEVERLY A. TABER
501 East 20 North
Shoshone, ID 83352

This is a protest letter concerning the order for: Curtailment of Ground Water Right with Priority Dates Junior to July 13, 1962. Located in Water District No. 130, Thousand Springs Area.

We are protesting for the following reasons:

1. We don't believe that it has been proven completely that our wells are the sole problem for decreased stream flow in Billingsly Creek.
2. We don't believe that Rangen's has tried to conserve their water and become more efficient users of water in their fish operation. We have worked for years to conserve our water and be more efficient.
3. If we are the whole cause of the spring flow depletion then why doesn't the spring flow increase dramatically through the winter when our wells are not in use.
4. We don't believe that Idaho can afford to send over 4 million acre feet of water down the river just to flush the Salmon to the ocean for some other country to harvest as they have done in the past. We believe that water needs to be used in Idaho for recharge or whatever.
5. There have been no new irrigation wells for many years, only transfers. At the same time there have been thousands of domestic wells dug and put in use. We believe these people should be involved in Aquifer Recharge and supplemental water purchasing along with the irrigators.
6. We believe that if this whole burden is placed on only the agricultural industry in the Magic Valley then that industry will cease to exist. We also believe that County Government and also the Cities in this area cannot exist without the agricultural and dairy industries. There is not enough other industry to provide the jobs and commerce to support the Magic Valley.

If you believe the State economy will survive and your goal is to rid Idaho of Agriculture then go ahead and shut the wells off, let the environmentalists have the water for stream flow and recreation and see what happens.

I hope you will take our concerns into consideration before making a harsh decision.

Sincerely,

Donald Taber

Donald Taber
Shoshone, Idaho