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Department of Water Resources

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Attorney for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

**BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**

**OF THE STATE OF IDAHO**

| | |
|---|---|
| IN THE MATTER OF DISTRIBUTION OF WATER TO WATER RIGHTS NOS. 36-15501, 36-02551, AND 36-07694 | **PETITION FOR HEARING** |

Pursuant to the March 10, 2004, Amended Order in the above-captioned proceeding, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), by through its attorney, Alexandra Viscusi, hereby contests the order and petitions the Director for a hearing.

The Amended Order makes findings of fact and conclusions of law regarding a call for water by Rangen, Inc., which holds surface water rights in spring flows in the Thousand Springs area. The Amended Order mandates the curtailment of certain ground water uses from the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) until mitigation or replacement water is provided. The Order identifies the amount of replacement water required based upon the Department's computer model.

Reclamation has a direct and substantial interest in this proceeding in that it holds surface water rights affected by ground water pumping that is occurring in Water District No. 130. The amount of mitigation water ultimately required could affect Reclamation's water rights in the

area. Further, a decision in this proceeding will determine the future management of ground and surface water rights in the area, which may affect the water supply available under Reclamation's water rights.

For the foregoing reasons, Reclamation respectfully contests the Amended Order and seeks a hearing on these matters.

Service on behalf of the Bureau of Reclamation should be made on:

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Reclamation requests that a courtesy copy of documents be sent to:

E. Gail McGarry, PN-3100
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Pacific Northwest Region
1150 North Curtis Road
Boise, ID 83706

Respectfully submitted this 25th day of March, 2004.

Alexandra M. Viscusi
Attorney for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 25th day of March, 2004, the above and foregoing document was served by placing a copy of the same in the United States mail, postage prepaid and properly addressed to the following:

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Katy Loomis