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ROGER D. LING (ISB No. 1018 - rdl@idlawfirm.com)
BRIAN J. COFFEY (ISB No. 6566 - bjc@idlawfirm.com)
LING, ROBINSON, AND WALKER
615 H STREET
P. O. BOX 396
RUPERT, IDAHO 83350-0396
TELEPHONE (208) 436-4717
FACSIMILE (208) 436-6804

Attorneys for Petitioner
Minidoka County School District #311

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

IN THE MATTER OF DISTRIBUTION OF)
WATER TO WATER RIGHT NOS 36-15501,) **PETITION FOR EXCLUSION**
36-02551, AND 36-07694) **FROM AMENDED ORDER**

Minidoka County School District #311, by and through its attorneys Roger D. Ling and Brian J. Coffey of the firm of Ling, Robinson & Walker, states and represents to the Director as follows:

COUNT I

1. On March 10, 2004, the Director issued an Amended Order making findings of fact and conclusions of law regarding a call for water by Rangen, Inc. based on Rangen's claim to surface water rights to certain spring flows in the Thousand Springs reach of the Snake River. The order sets out a plan for curtailment of ground water rights in Water District 130 junior to July 13, 1962, unless certain conditions are met regarding mitigation and replacement water.

2. Minidoka County School District #311 is the beneficial owner of certain water rights

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sought to be curtailed by the Amended Order of the Director dated March 10, 2004, described as follows:

<u>Water Right</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Volume</u>	<u>Acre Limit</u>	<u>Source of Water</u>
36-07134	6/24/1970	.38 cfs	76 af	19 ac	Ground/Recaptured Minidoka Irrigation District Project Water
36-07135	6/24/1970	.38 cfs	76 af	19 ac	Ground/Recaptured Minidoka Irrigation District Project Water
Total		.76 cfs	152 af	38 acres	

3. Minidoka County School District #311 recaptures irrigation surface water from lands within the Minidoka Irrigation District Project pursuant to Idaho Code §42-228. As such, no license is required by the school district to use this water. This petition is being filed in an abundance of caution, and to prevent any curtailment of the school district's use of its wells used to divert this recaptured project water.

4. That recaptured water is reused by Minidoka County School District #311 to irrigate the 38 acres of school district property, specifically up to 19 acres at East Minico Junior High School and up to 19 acres at West Minico Junior High School in Minidoka County, State of Idaho.

5. The original source of this recaptured project water is surface water from within the Minidoka Irrigation District project, is not derived from the Eastern Snake River Plain Aquifer (ESPA), and is therefore not subject to call under the Amended Order of the Director.

COUNT II

1. Minidoka County School District #311 adopts and incorporates herein as though fully set forth paragraphs 1 and 2 of Count I.

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BOJULKT, IDAHO 83410-0395

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2. The Director has failed to curtail water rights to the groundwater of the entire ESPA that may be junior to petitioner's rights.

3. Acts of the Director are contrary to the laws of Idaho, and the order of March 10, 2004 should be amended to curtail all ground water diversions junior in the ESPA junior to petitioner or be withdrawn.

WHEREFORE Minidoka County School District #331 prays for the following relief:

1. That Minidoka County School District #311 be wholly excluded from the Amended Order of the Director of March 10, 2004;

2. That none of Minidoka County School District #311's water rights listed in Count I be curtailed by reason of the petition set forth above;

3. That the director adopt and approve the use of recaptured project water set forth above as a valid and reasonable use under water rights that are not subject to curtailment by the Order of the Director;

4. That the Director and the Department manage the ESPA for the benefit of Minidoka County School District #311 as well as other appropriators;

5. That any curtailment order of the Director or the Department be amended to provide that any curtailment of water rights in the ESPA will be carried out against junior appropriators in order of seniority among the class of juniors from least senior to most senior;

6. That no curtailment be applied against any water rights of Minidoka County School District #311 until curtailment of all users junior to the school district has been completed;

7. For such further relief as may be requested at the time of hearing in this

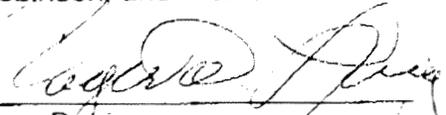
LING, ROBINSON & WALKER
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
BOISE, IDAHO 83702-0758

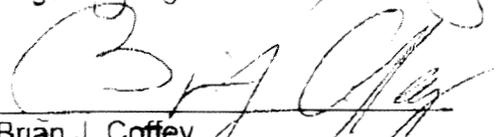
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matter.

DATED this 20th day of March 2004.

Ling, Robinson, and Walker

By: 
Roger D. Ling


Brian J. Coffey
Attorneys for Petitioner
Minidoka County School District #331

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that on the 20th day of March 2004, I served the original of the foregoing **Petition for Exclusion from Order** upon:

Karl J. Dreher, Director
Department of Water Resources
1301 North Orchard Street
Statehouse Mail
Boise ID 83720

and copies of said **Petition for Exclusion from Order** upon:

J DEE MAY
MAY SUDWEEKS
PO BOX 1846
TWIN FALLS ID 83303-1846

SCOTT CAMPBELL
MOFFATT THOMAS
PO BOX 829
BOISE ID 83701

MIKE CREAMER
JEFF FEREDAY
GIVENS PURSLEY
PO BOX 2720
BOISE ID 83701-2720

RC STONE
PARSONS SMITH STONE
PO BOX 910
BURLEY ID 83318
DIETRICH ID 83324

LING, ROBINSON & WALKER
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
RUEFEL BLVD. TWIN FALLS, ID

LING, ROBINSON & WALKER
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
RUPERT, IDAHO 83400-0000

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DANA HOFSTETTER
HOFSTETTER LAW OFFICE
608 WEST FRANKLIN
BOISE ID 83702

DANIEL STEENSON
CHARLES HONSINGER
RINGERT CLARK
PO BOX 2773
BOISE ID 83701-2773

JOSEPHINE BEEMAN
BEEMAN & ASSOCIATES
409 W JEFFERSON ST
BOISE ID 83702-6049

JOHN ROSHOLT
TRAVIS THOMPSON
BARKER ROSHOLT SIMPSON
233 SECOND ST N STE D
TWIN FALLS ID 83301

JOHN SIMPSON
BARKER ROSHOLT SIMPSON
PO BOX 2139
BOISE ID 83701-2139

GENE & JUDY FREDERICKSEN
200 NORTH 349 EAST
JEROME ID 83338

JEROME COUNTRY CLUB
PO BOX 136
JEROME ID 83338

RICHARD A DINGES
TUNUPA RANCH
2490 EAST 1700 SOUTH
GOODING ID 83330

NEAL & NANCY BOWMAN
402 SOUTH 750 EAST
DIETRICH ID 83324

RALPH STANLEY WARD
917 EAST 470 SOUTH
DIETRICH ID 83324

MAGIC VALLEY GWD
1099 N 400 W
RUPERT ID 83350

NORTH SNAKE GWD
152 E MAIN ST
JEROME ID 83338

JERRY AND PATTY NANCE
814 HWY 24
DIETRICH ID 83324

LOUIS LEON HUBSMITH
647 EAST 130 SOUTH
DIETRICH ID 83324

DELBERT KOHTZ
1135 VALLEY ROAD SOUTH
EDEN ID 83325

VIC CONRAD
JR SIMPLOT CO
PO BOX 27
BOISE ID 83707-0027

CHUCK BROCKWAY
WEBB BASIN DAIRY
2016 N WASHINGTON ST STE 4
TWIN FALLS ID 83301

J TIM THOMAS
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
PO BOX 7129
BOISE ID 83707-1129

HUBERT & RITA SHAW
SHAW LAND & LIVESTOCK
411 SOUTH 750 EAST
DIETRICH ID 83324

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MICHAEL STEVENS
LAVA LAND & LIVESTOCK
PO BOX 2249
HAILEY ID 83333

VERNON RAVENSCROFT
1328-B SHOESTRING RD
BLISS ID 83314
ARLEN & MARYLEE BUERKLE
343 SOUTH 300 WEST
RUPERT ID 83350

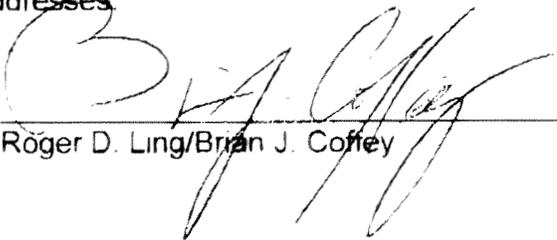
ED & ALPHA MAHLER
366 N MERIDIAN
RUPERT ID 83350

DONLEY FARMS
DONALD & BEVERLY TABER
501 EAST 20 NORTH
SHOSHONE ID 83352

DONALD T BRAY
SCOTT HUXBOLD
PO BOX 156
BLISS ID 83314

SCOTT JENSEN
JENSEN DAIRY FARM
660 WEST 300 SOUTH
HEYBURN ID 83336

by depositing said document in the United States mail, postage prepaid, in envelopes addressed to said parties at the foregoing addresses.


Roger D. Ling/Brian J. Coffey

LING, ROBINSON & WALKER
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
601 P.O. BOX 20000-2000