BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OF THE
STATE OF IDAHO

IN THE MATTER OF GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT IN THE BANBURY HOT SPRINGS GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA, TWIN FALLS COUNTY.	)	ORDER

This matter having come before the Director of the Department of Water Resources following investigation by the Department staff, the Director finds as follows:

1. The Banbury Hot Springs Ground Water Management Area (Banbury Management Area) was created on April 12, 1983 by Order of the Director of the Department of Water Resources (Director) pursuant to the provisions of Section 42-233b, Idaho Code.

2. The Department has monitored wells in the Banbury Management Area, prior to and subsequent to designation of the area, and the wells continue to show a decline in pressure.

3. Department records show that there are numerous permitted but not yet developed water uses and projects within the Banbury Management Area.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing findings of fact, the Director makes the following conclusions of law:

1. Idaho Code § 42-237a(g) (1977 and Supp. 1985) empowers the Director of the Department of Water Resources, "To supervise and control the exercise and administration of all rights hereafter acquired to the use of ground waters and in the exer-

cise of this power he may be [by] summary order, prohibit or limit the withdrawal of water from any well during any period that he determines that water to fill any water right in said well is not there available."

2. Idaho Code § 42-237a(g) further provides that, "Water in a well shall not be deemed available to fill a water right therein if withdrawal therefrom of the amount called for by such right would . . . result in the withdrawing [of] the ground water supply at a rate beyond the reasonably anticipated average rate of future natural recharge."

3. Idaho Code § 42-1805 (Supp. 1985) provides in part as follows:

> In addition to other duties prescribed by law, the director of the department of water resources shall have the following powers and duties:
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> . . . .
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> (7) After notice, to suspend the issuance or further action on permits or applications necessary to protect existing vested water rights or to ensure compliance with the provisions of chapter 2, title 42, Idaho Code, or to prevent violation of minimum flow provisions of the state water plan.

4. Based upon presently available data, the ground water supply within the Banbury Management Area is being withdrawn at a rate beyond the reasonably anticipated average rate of future natural recharge.

5. The Director has a duty, pursuant to Idaho Code §§ 42-237a(g) and 42-1805, to stay the approval of any pending applications for permit to appropriate ground water within the

Banbury Management Area, and to order the suspension of any further development under existing permits to appropriate ground water within the Banbury Management Area which, as of the date of service of this order, are not fully developed.

ORDER

IT IS, THEREFORE, HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

1. As of the date of this order, approval of any pending applications for permit to appropriate ground water within the Banbury Hot Springs Ground Water Management Area shall be stayed until further order by the Director.

2. The owners of permits to appropriate ground water within the boundaries of the Banbury Hot Springs Ground Water Management Area shall cease and suspend any further development under those permits beyond the extent already developed as of the date of service of this order.

3. The owners of permits to appropriate ground water within the boundaries of the Banbury Hot Springs Ground Water Management Area, for which proof of beneficial use has not already been submitted to the Department of Water Resources, shall submit proof of beneficial use showing the extent of existing development if any, upon forms furnished by the Department, within thirty (30) days of the service of this order.

4. A copy of this order shall be served by certified mail upon the owners of all applications and permits to appropriate ground water within the Banbury Hot Springs Ground Water

Management Area, together with a letter identifying the record owner of the application or permit, the application or permit number, and a statement describing the legal recourse which may be taken by someone who objects to any provision of this order.

DATED this 4th day of December, 1985.

A. KENNETH DUNN
Director