

IN THE MATTER OF APPLICATIONS 29502 and 29503)
FILED BY E.R.P., INC. TO CHANGE THE MANNER)
OF USE OF WATER HERETOFORE APPROPRIATED FROM)
AN UNDERGROUND SOURCE IN LEMMON VALLEY,)
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA.)

R U L I N G

128

GENERAL:

Applications 29502 and 29503 were filed on June 27, 1975 by E.R.P., Inc. to change the manner of use to irrigation from quasi-municipal and domestic of underground water, heretofore appropriated under Permits 28588 and 28591. Each application is to change the manner of use of 2.0 c.f.s. of water. The points of diversion and places of use are to remain the same. The point of diversion under Permit 28588 and Application 29502 is within the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 33, T.21N., R.19E., MDB&M. The point of diversion under Permit 28591 and Application 29503 is within the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ said Sec. 33. The place of use for both applications and permits remains the same; that is, approximately 202 acres within the W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of said Sec. 33.

Water Resources Bulletin No. 42 prepared cooperatively by the U. S. Geological Survey estimates the perennial yield of the East Lemmon Valley Subarea to be 400 acre-feet of ground water per year. An augmented yield estimate of 600 acre-feet per year of ground water is also made. Existing water rights in the East Lemmon Valley Subarea could potentially be used to divert over 9000 acre-feet of ground water per year. None of the existing water rights is for irrigation purposes.

The Lemmon Valley area has experienced rapid growth since 1960 and serves as a suburban area to the City of Reno. The U. S. 1960 Census found that 1111 people lived in Lemmon Valley excluding the Stead Air Base area and by 1970 the population had grown to 2700. The East Lemmon Subarea had a population of 2448 in 1970. The Regional Planning Commission for Reno, Sparks and Washoe County estimated the East Lemmon Subarea population to be 5293 in 1973. The Central area of the East Lemmon Subarea as defined in Water Resources Bulletin No. 42 includes said Sec. 33 and had an estimated population of 3917 in 1973.

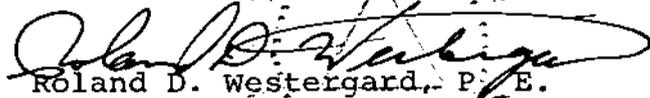
On July 14, 1971, the State Engineer designated Lemmon Valley as a ground water basin coming under the provisions of Chapter 534 NRS. NRS 534.120 authorizes the State Engineer to designate preferred uses of ground water within designated areas in the interest of public welfare.

Ruling
Applications 29502 & 29503
Page Two

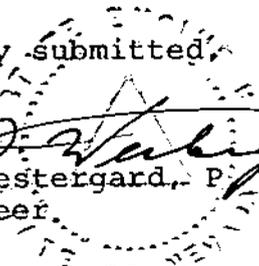
RULING:

Applications 29502 and 29503 are hereby denied on the grounds that irrigation is not a preferred use of the limited ground water resource in the urbanizing East Lemmon Valley Subarea and the granting of these applications would, therefore be detrimental to the public welfare.

Respectfully submitted,



Roland D. Westergard, P. E.
State Engineer



RDW:JLC:sk

Dated this 12th
day of November, 1975.