

IN THE MATTER OF APPLICATION NO. 15757)
FILED BY THE IMPERIAL OPERATING COMPANY)
TO APPROPRIATE WATER FROM AN UNDERGROUND : RULING
SOURCE FOR MINING AND MILLING PURPOSES)
IN WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA.)

Same as 2:20

Description of Application:

Application No. 15757 was filed on August 3, 1954 by the Imperial Operating Company, (a co-partnership) for permission to appropriate 0.5 c.f.s. of water from an underground source for mining and milling purposes. The point of diversion and place of use are designated as being within the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 7, T. 17 N., R. 20 E., M.D.B.&M. The period of use is from January 1st to December 31st of each year.

A protest to the granting of this application was filed on September 17, 1954 by Viola Sauer, Leo Sauer, and Vera Sauer on grounds that the proposed appropriation would reduce the water table so as to preclude either domestic or agricultural use of the water, and further that the residue from the mill will contaminate not only the underground waters in the area but also their farmlands.

General:

A field investigation in the matter of this application was made by representatives of this office on Thursday, May 26, 1955. From said investigation it was found that the proposed well under Application No. 15757 is to be located at approximately 500 feet in a southwesterly direction from the Sauer well under Permit No. 15839, and about 300 feet southerly from Galena Creek. The well is about 30 feet in elevation from Galena Creek.

The water is to be used in a mill which is located approximately 200 feet southwesterly of the well. It is proposed to treat 100 tons of ore daily by floatation which will require approximately 400 tons of water. The water from the mill will be filtered by mechanical means and impounded in a tailings pond from which it will be pumped for reuse in the mill. Tailings are to be hauled to a storage dump.

Tailings escaping from the mill will tend to seal the pond and prevent percolation through the ground.

Opinion:

It is the opinion of this office that the use of water under Application No. 15757 will not deplete the water table to such an extent that it would be detrimental to other uses in the area. It is further the opinion of this office that if proper measures are taken, the residue from the mill will not contaminate the underground waters or farmlands.

There should be little or no interference between the pumping under Applications Nos. 15757 and 15839, nor should proposed diversion

affect the waters of Galena Creek.

RULING

The protest to the granting of this application is herewith overruled on grounds that its granting should not impair the value of existing rights or be otherwise detrimental to the public welfare. A permit will be issued under Application No. 15757 on receipt of the statutory permit fee, subject to the following provisions:

1. The permit will be issued subject to all existing rights in the amount of 0.20 c.f.s.
2. The permit will be issued with the understanding that the permittee shall at all times take adequate measures to prevent pollution to both underground and surface waters.
3. The permittee shall take adequate measures to prevent contamination of surrounding farmlands by residue from the milling operation.
4. Any violation of such provisions will make the permit subject to revocation.

Respectfully submitted,

HUGH A. SHAMBERGER
State Engineer

Dated this 17th day of
June, 1955.