

**IN THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER
OF THE STATE OF NEVADA**

IN THE MATTER OF APPLICATION 36995)
FILED TO APPROPRIATE THE PUBLIC)
WATERS OF AN UNDERGROUND)
SOURCE WITHIN THE SUSIE CREEK)
AREA HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (050),)
ELKO COUNTY, NEVADA.)

RULING

#5390

GENERAL

I.

Application 36995 was filed on March 13, 1979, by Dorothy J. Stoltman to appropriate 5.4 cubic feet per second of water from an underground source for irrigation purposes in support of a Desert Land Entry. The proposed place of use is described as being 320 acres located within the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 13, and the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 24, T.33N., R.52E., M.D.B.&M. The proposed point of diversion is described as being located within the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 13, T.33N., R.52E., M.D.B.&M.¹

FINDINGS OF FACT

I.

The applicant and her agent were notified by certified mail dated September 23, 2003, to submit additional information regarding Application 36995 to the Office of the State Engineer. The applicant was warned that failure to respond within 30 days would result in denial of the application. The letter to the applicant was returned to the Office of the State Engineer, by the U.S. Postal Service, because it was not claimed by the addressee.¹ The letter was re-sent by regular mail and was returned a second time to the Office of the State Engineer by the U.S. Postal Service, with "Unknown" written on the envelope. A properly endorsed certified mail receipt was received in the Office of the State Engineer from the applicant's agent on October 6, 2003.² To date, the applicant and her agent have expressed no interest in pursuing this application and have not submitted the additional information requested. The State Engineer finds that the applicant and her

¹ File No. 36995, official records in the Office of the State Engineer.

² File No. 36993, official records in the Office of the State Engineer.

agent were properly notified of the request for additional information regarding interest in pursuing Application 36995 and have failed to respond.

II.

The State Engineer finds that there has been no correspondence from the applicant or her agent regarding Application 36995 for at least 23 years.¹

CONCLUSIONS

I.

The State Engineer has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of this action and determination.³

II.

Before either approving or rejecting an application, the State Engineer may require such additional information as will enable him to properly guard the public interest.⁴

III.

The State Engineer is prohibited by law from granting a permit under an application to appropriate the public water where:⁵

- A. there is no unappropriated water at the proposed source;
- B. the proposed use or change conflicts with existing rights;
- C. the proposed use or change conflicts with protectible interests in existing domestic wells as set forth in NRS § 533.024; or
- D. the proposed use or change threatens to prove detrimental to the public interest.

IV.

The applicant and her agent were properly notified of the requirement for additional information and have failed to submit the information to the Office of the State Engineer. The State Engineer concludes that the failure to express any interest in the application for over 23 years demonstrates the applicant's lack of interest in pursuing Application 36995. The State Engineer concludes it would threaten to prove detrimental to the public interest to issue a permit under these circumstances.

³ NRS chapters 533 and 534.

⁴ NRS § 533.375.

⁵ NRS § 533.370(4).

RULING

Application 36995 is hereby denied on the grounds its issuance would threaten to prove detrimental to the public interest.

Respectfully submitted,



HUGH RICCI, P.E.
State Engineer

HR/TW/jm

Dated this 18th day of

June, 2004.