

IN THE MATTER OF APPLICATION 22560)
FILED ON APRIL 29, 1965 BY JAMES W.)
LAWRENCE AND LOUISE LAWRENCE TO)
APPROPRIATE WATER FROM AN UNDER-)
GROUND SOURCE TO BE USED FOR IRRI-)
GATION IN PAHRUMP VALLEY, NYE COUNTY,)
NEVADA.)

RULING

General:

Application 22560 was filed on April 29, 1965 by James W. and Louise Lawrence to appropriate 3.0 c.f.s. of water from an underground source for irrigation purposes. The point of diversion was to be within the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 7, T. 20 S., R. 53 E., M.D.B.&M. The place of use was to be 160 acres in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 7, T. 20 S., R. 53 E., M.D.B.&M.

Recharge to the unconsolidated material that forms the alluvial fans and the valley floor of Pahrump Valley has been estimated by the U.S.G.S. to be about 12,000 acre-feet per year. Some of this is lost to adjoining valleys leaving even less available as a perennial yield for irrigation. Appropriated water rights total over 90,000 acre-feet per year and pumpage records show that 37,500 acre-feet of water were pumped during 1964, some 25,500 acre-feet in excess of the average annual recharge.

Opinion:

It is the opinion of this office that granting additional subsurface rights for the irrigation of new land in the Pahrump Designated Basin would adversely affect the existing water rights and would be detrimental to the orderly development of the area.

RULING

Application 22560 is hereby denied on the grounds that the granting of this application would impair the value of existing subsurface water rights and would be detrimental to the public interest in the already over appropriated basin.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE W. HENNEN
State Engineer

By: 
Roland D. Westergaard
Assistant State Engineer

Dated this 10th day
of December, 1965.

RDW:JLC:hs