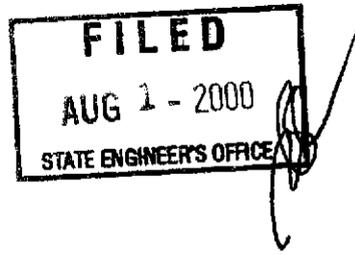


IN THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN THE MATTER OF APPLICATION NUMBER 65955
FILED BY Moapa Board of Paiutes
ON 1/28/2000, TO APPROPRIATE THE
WATERS OF Underground

PROTEST



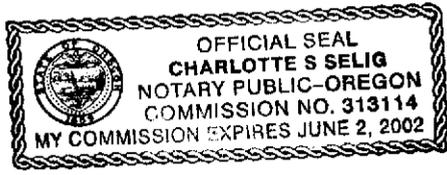
Comes now U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Printed or typed name of protestant
whose post office address is 911 NE 11th Ave., Portland, Oregon 97232-4181
Street No. or P.O. Box, City, State and Zip Code
whose occupation is Agency of the Federal Government, and protests the granting
of Application Number 65955, filed on 1/28/2000
by Moapa Board of Paiutes
Printed or typed name of applicant
waters of Underground situated in Clark
Underground or name of stream, lake, spring or other source

County, State of Nevada, for the following reasons and on the following grounds, to wit:
Granting this application may injure Service water rights and water
resources. The hydrologic connectivity between the area of the
proposed groundwater withdrawal and the Muddy River Springs is not
known for certain, but preliminary analysis indicates that the proposed
pumping may impact spring discharge in the Muddy River Springs area.
The Service is awaiting final analysis and is negotiating with the tribe
to monitor or mitigate any anticipated impacts. If a satisfactory
agreement can be worked out, the Service will withdraw its protest.
THEREFORE the protestant requests that the application be Denied
(Denied, issued subject to prior rights, etc., as the case may be)

and that an order be entered for such relief as the State Engineer deems just and proper.

Signed
Agent or protestant
Paul Rauch, Agent for USFWS
Printed or typed name, if agent
Address 911 NE 11th Ave
Street No. or P.O. Box No.
Portland, OR 97232-4181
City, State and Zip Code No.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th day of July 2000.



Notary Public
State of Oregon
County of Multnomah

\$25
FILING FEE MUST ACCOMPANY PROTEST. PROTEST MUST BE FILED IN DUPLICATE.
ALL COPIES MUST CONTAIN ORIGINAL SIGNATURE.