

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

IN THE MATTER OF APPLICATION 32339 )  
FILED TO APPROPRIATE THE PUBLIC )  
WATERS OF AN UNDERGROUND )  
SOURCE WITHIN THE SMITH CREEK )  
VALLEY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN (134), )  
LANDER COUNTY, NEVADA. )

**RULING**

**#5380**

**GENERAL**

**I.**

Application 32339 was filed on June 27, 1977, by Eugene B. Wolpert, to appropriate 4.46 cubic feet per second of water from an underground source for irrigation and domestic purposes in support of a Carey Act Application. The proposed place of use is described as being 160 acres located within the N½ NW¼ of Section 2, T.16N., R.39E., and S½ SW¼ of Section 35, T.17N., R.39E., M.D.B.&M. The point of diversion is described as being located within the SW¼ SW¼ of Section 35, T.17N., R.39E., M.D.B.&M.<sup>1</sup>

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

**I.**

The applicant and his agent were notified by certified mail dated November 4, 2003, to submit additional information regarding Application 32339 to the State Engineer's office. The applicant was warned that failure to respond within 30 days would result in denial of the application. The certified letter to the applicant was returned to the Office of the State Engineer, by the U.S. Postal Service, stamped "Returned to Sender". A properly endorsed certified mail receipt was received in the Office of the State Engineer from the applicant's agent on November 6, 2003. To date, the applicant and his agent have expressed no interest in pursuing this application and have not submitted the additional information requested.<sup>1</sup> The State Engineer finds that the applicant and his agent were properly notified of the request for additional information regarding interest in pursuing Application 32339 and failed to respond.

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<sup>1</sup> File No. 32339, official records in the Office of the State Engineer.

**II.**

The State Engineer finds that it is the responsibility of the applicant or his agents to keep this office informed of a current mailing address..

**CONCLUSIONS**

**I.**

The State Engineer has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of this action and determination.<sup>2</sup>

**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.<sup>3</sup>

**III.**

The State Engineer is prohibited by law from granting a permit under an application to appropriate the public water where:<sup>4</sup>

- 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 his agent were properly notified of the requirement for additional information and have failed to submit the information to the State Engineer's office. The State Engineer concludes that the failure to express any interest in the application and the failure to maintain a current mailing address demonstrates the applicant's lack of interest in pursuing Application 32339. The State Engineer concludes it would threaten to prove detrimental to the public interest to issue a permit under these circumstances.

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<sup>2</sup> NRS chapters 533 and 534.

<sup>3</sup> NRS § 533.375.

<sup>4</sup> NRS § 533.370(4).

**RULING**

Application 32339 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 17th day of  
June, 2004.