

IN THE MATTER OF APPLICATION 23374 )  
FILED ON SEPTEMBER 7, 1966, BY ALVIN )  
L. BELLS TO APPROPRIATE WATER FROM )  
AN UNDERGROUND SOURCE TO BE USED FOR )  
IRRIGATION AND DOMESTIC PURPOSES IN )  
THE PAHRUMP ARTESIAN BASIN, NYE COUNTY, )  
NEVADA, )

R U L I N G

GENERAL:

152 Application 23374 was filed by Alvin L. Bells to appropriate water from an underground source for irrigation and domestic purposes. The point of diversion shown on the Application is within the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 36, T. 19 S., R. 52 E., M.D.B. & M. and the place of use is the N $\frac{1}{2}$  of Section 36, T. 19 S., R. 52 E., M.D.B. & M.

Average annual recharge to the unconsolidated material that forms the alluvial fans and the valley-fill of the Pahrump Artesian Basin has been estimated by the U.S.G.S. to be 12,000 acre feet. Existing water rights appropriate over 90,000 acre-feet per year and our records indicate that 36,514 acre-feet was actually pumped from the Basin during 1965, some 24,514 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 would adversely affect the existing water rights in the Basin and would be, therefore, detrimental to the public welfare.

RULING:

Application 23374 is hereby denied on the grounds that the granting of the Application would impair the value of existing subsurface water rights and be detrimental to the public welfare.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE W. HENNEN  
STATE ENGINEER

BY:

  
Roland D. Westergard  
Assistant State Engineer

RDW:BJV:jw

Dated this 17th day

of January, 1967