

IN THE MATTER OF APPLICATIONS 42190,)
42192 AND 43017 FILED TO APPROPRIATE)
THE WATERS OF AN UNDERGROUND SOURCE)
IN CARSON VALLEY, DOUGLAS COUNTY,)
NEVADA)

R U L I N G

INTRODUCTION

Applications 42190, 42192 and 43017 were filed to appropriate water from an underground source in the Carson Valley Ground Water Basin, Douglas County, Nevada.

In 1975, Water Resources Reconnaissance Series Report 59, Water Resource Appraisal of the Carson River Basin, Western Nevada, by Patrick A. Glancy and T. L. Katzer was prepared cooperatively by the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Division of Water Resources and the U. S. Department of the Interior, Geological Survey. This report is available from the office of the State Engineer.

FINDINGS OF FACT

I

Application 42190 and 42192 were filed by the Bently-Buckeye Ranch on August 26, 1980 request to appropriate 2.0 c.f.s. of underground water under each respective application for irrigation purposes. The points of diversion were located within the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 27, T.13N., R.20E., M.D.B.& M. The place of Use under Applications 42190 and 42192 is within portions of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, and the N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 27, T.13N., R.20E., M.D.B.& M. 1/

Application 43017 was filed by the Bently-Buckeye Ranch on December 29, 1980 to appropriate 4.2 c.f.s. of underground water for irrigation purposes. The point of diversion is within the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 24, T.13N., R.20E., M.D.B.& M. The place of use is 240 acres within the N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, and the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 24, T.13N., R.20E., M.D.B.& M. 1/

II

By an Order dated June 14, 1977, the State Engineer designated and described the Carson Valley Ground Water Basin under the provision of NRS 534. 2/

III

It is estimated that the potential annual recharge to the ground water basin from precipitation is 25,000 acre-feet. The estimated annual sub-surface inflow to the ground water basin from California is approximately 7,000 acre-feet. The total potential annual recharge to the Carson Valley Ground Water Basin is, therefore, approximately 32,000 acre-feet per year. 3/ Any consumptive withdrawal in excess of the natural recharge will either deplete the ground water reservoir or cause additional surface water to percolate into the ground water reservoir.

IV

Existing certified and permitted ground water rights in the Carson Valley Ground Water Basin for irrigation and other purposes presently total over 40,000 acre-feet per year. 4/

V

A public hearing in the matter of previous applications to appropriate water from the Carson Valley Ground Water Basin was held on March 27 and 28, 1978. Although much testimony was presented at the hearing, there was no substantial evidence presented that would indicate that there was sufficient ground water available to supply the proposed diversions without creating an adverse effect on prior existing water rights. 5/

VI

Applications to appropriate underground water to irrigate additional land and applications for quasi-municipal use in areas with concentrated wells have been denied in Carson Valley. 6/

CONCLUSIONS

I

The State Engineer has jurisdiction of the parties and the subject matter of this action. 7/

II

The State Engineer is prohibited by law from granting a permit where:

- A. There is no unappropriated water at the proposed source, or
- B. The proposed use conflicts with existing rights, or
- C. The proposed use threatens to prove detrimental to the public welfare. 8/

III

If Applications 42190, 42192 and 43017 are granted, additional land would be irrigated or land that is irrigated only part time would be irrigated more intensively and frequently. This would result in additional consumptive use by farm land irrigation. The additional withdrawals and consumption would remove water from the ground water reservoir which:

- A. Would not be replaced resulting in depletion of the ground water reservoir, or
- B. Would be replaced by infiltrating surface water that would otherwise remain in or return to the stream system.

The additional withdrawal and consumption of underground water for irrigation would, therefore, conflict with existing rights and threaten to prove detrimental to the public welfare.

IV

The State Engineer is authorized and directed to designate preferred uses of water within designated ground water basins such as the Carson Valley Ground Water Basin. 9/. The consumptive use of additional ground water to irrigate additional land or to more intensively or frequently irrigate other land is not considered to be a preferred use of the limited water resources of the Carson Valley Ground Water Basin.

RULING

Applications 42190, 42192 and 43017 are denied on the grounds that the appropriation of underground water for irrigation in the designated area would tend to impair the value of existing rights, would be detrimental to the public interest and welfare, and would not be a preferred use of the limited ground water resource in the Carson Valley Ground Water Basin.

Respectfully submitted,


Peter G. Morros
State Engineer

PGM/GMT/dh

Dated this 3rd day
of February 1982.

FOOTNOTES

1. Public records in the office of the State Engineer.
2. Public records in the office of the State Engineer.
3. Water Resources - Reconnaissance Series, Report 59, pp. 2, 51.
4. Public records in the office of the State Engineer.
5. Transcript of Hearing in the Matter of Pending Applications to Appropriate Water in Carson Valley Ground Water Basin, March 27 and 28, 1978.
6. Public records in the office of the State Engineer. See denied Applications 28799, 28800, 18801, 28802, 29698, 30348, 30349, 30075, 30203, 30640, 30711, 30789, 30870, 31169, 31170, 31171, 31182, 31258, 31259, 31376, 31377, 31380, 31381, 31386, 31414, 31415, 31416, 31459, 31500, 31508, 31509, 31615, 31616, 31660, 31661, 31687, 31688, 31689, 31690, 31691, 31692, 31693, 31694, 31695, 31696, 31697, 31698, 31699, 31700, 31701, 31702, 31703, 31704, 31705, 31706, 31747, 31759, 31760, 31761, 31762, 31776, 31777, 31807, 31810, 31846, 31849, 32107, 32108, 32109, 32110, 32111, 32141, 32142, 32143, 32144, 32147, 32148, 32149, 32150, 32151, 32152, 32153, 32154, 32321, 32322, 32327, 32328, 32330, 32331, 32332, 32333, 32345, 32347, 32353, 32365, 32428, 32429, 32430, 32431, 32446, 32447, 32584, 32585, 32594, 32606, 32607, 32608, 32663, 32831, 32910, 32936, 32937, 32950, 32663, 33366, 33449, 33474, 33880, 34053, 34613, 34746, 35000, 35023, 35024, 35235, 35431, 35660, 35880, 35881, 36175, 36403, 36465, 37113, 37114 and 43134.
7. NRS 533.025 and NRS 533.030, subsection 1.
8. NRS 533.370, subsection 4.
9. NRS 534.120, subsection 2.