

Elmridge Farms LLC

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July 14, 2020

Columbia Irrigation District

10 E. Kennewick,

Kennewick, Wa. 99336

Benton Rural Electric Association

P.O. Box 1150

Prosser, Wa 99350-0953

Re: Columbia Irrigation Association change in Sandhill Irrigation System:

Quantity parcels' water right, and

Quantities water delivery to parcels'

Diversion point.



To the CID Board of Directors,

Sandhill Irrigation Association operates a irrigation pump station on the CID canal. This pump station diverts 500 gallons per minute irrigation waters into the piping system. The piping system operates as a carriage system.¹ Each parcel on the system has a unique point of diversion uninterrupted by any other parcel on the system. It delivers 6.8 gallons per minute a parcels water right acreage.² The carriage system operates in accordance with Statutory, Municipal and CID rules and regulations.

Now, the Association has encountered problem within administration of Statutory, Municipal and CID rules delivery waters these parcels served on the carriage system .

It has come to pass, alfalfa growers on the system claim their water right is 4.8 acre feet per year. Thus when there is a interruption in deliveries of water, irrigation season start is delayed or they reduce their water delivery to harvest their crop the 6.8 gpm draw on 4.8 acre feet irrigation water is reserved and stored by the District for that entities future use. As a example the irrigation system start is delayed for maintenance, waters are not yet available or off for ten days, the District stores 97,920 gallons water for the entities use. Thereafter when the entity turns their system on their right to with draw waters at a rate of 6.80 gallons per minute, increases from 6.8 gpm to as much as 17 gpm drawing upon past and future reserves CID waters.

This interpretation of historic CID mode of operation is in conflict with the operation of the Sandhill Irrigation Association Pump Station. The station is not designed nor capable of operating to infinitely variable flows and pressures to match the historic CID modes of operating. The plants capacity and carriage system is limited to 6.8 gpm per acre irrigation waters right allocated per parcel as established at the time of procurement,

¹ The carriage system withdraws a fixed quantity of water from the CID canal and provides these waters at a single point of withdrawal a parcels water right.

² Thus, a parcel twelve or more acres in size with six acres of water right is delivered 40.8 gallons per minute at the carriage system parcels metered point of diversion. Thereafter where the parcel has been short plat into three parcels four or more acres in size with each allocated two acres water right, 13.6 gpm from start of season to end of season at it's parcels metered point of diversion. Totaling 40.8 gallons per minute.



construction, assignment and delivery to each parcel and subsequent subdivided parcels.

What is the Districts policy on deliveries of waters to parcels within the District?

Regard,

Francis X. McGowan

Francis X. McGowan
Manager, Elmridge Farms LLC

CC Sandhill Irrigation Association c/o John Winters

Elmridge Farms LLC

Sandhill Irrigation Association

