

NOTICE OF HEARING on Application Nos. 7365-3 through 7370-3 to Appropriate Water

Notice is given that Huron Colony, c/o Joey Waldner, 40068 Huron Colony Lane, Huron SD 57350 has filed the following applications for a water permit.

Application No. 7365-3 proposes to appropriate 1.78 cubic feet of water per second (cfs) from one well to be completed into the Tulare:East James Aquifer (95 feet deep) located in the center of the SW 1/4 Section 20 for irrigation of 132 acres located in the SW 1/4 Section 20; all in T113N-R61W.

Application No. 7366-3 proposes to appropriate 1.78 cfs from one well to be completed into the Tulare:East James Aquifer (95 feet deep) located in the center of the NW 1/4 Section 20 for irrigation of 132 acres located in the NW 1/4 Section 20; all in T113N-R61W.

Application No. 7367-3 proposes to appropriate 1.78 cfs from one well to be completed into the Tulare:East James Aquifer (95 feet deep) located in the center of the NE 1/4 Section 19 for irrigation of 132 acres located in the NE 1/4 Section 19; all in T113N-R61W.

Application No. 7368-3 proposes to appropriate 1.78 cfs from one well to be completed into the Tulare:East James Aquifer (95 feet deep) located in the center of the NW 1/4 Section 19 for irrigation of 132 acres located in the NW 1/4 Section 19; all in T113N-R61W.

Application No. 7369-3 proposes to appropriate 1.78 cfs from one well to be completed into the Tulare:East James Aquifer (95 feet deep) located in the center of the SW 1/4 Section 19 for irrigation of 132 acres located in the SW 1/4 Section 19; all in T113N-R61W.

Application No. 7370-3 proposes to appropriate 1.78 cfs from one well to be completed into the Tulare:East James Aquifer (95 feet deep) located in the center of the SE 1/4 Section 19 for irrigation of 132 acres located in the SE 1/4 Section 19; all in T113N-R61W.

Pursuant to SDCL 46-2A-2, the Chief Engineer recommends APPROVAL of Application Nos. 7365-3, 7366-3, 7367-3, 7368-3, 7369-3 and 7370-3 because 1) unappropriated water is available, 2) existing rights will not be unlawfully impaired, 3) it is a beneficial use of water, and 4) it is in the public interest.

SDCL 46-2A-4(10) provides that “if the applicant does not contest the recommendation of the Chief Engineer and no petition to oppose the application is received, the Chief Engineer shall act on the application pursuant to the Chief Engineer’s recommendations and no hearing may be held before the board, unless the Chief Engineer makes a finding that an application, even if uncontested, presents important issues of public policy or public interest that should be heard by the board.” In this case, the Chief Engineer finds that these applications present important issues of public interest that should be heard by the Water Management Board.

The Water Management Board will consider these applications at 10:30 a.m. (CDT) on October 3, 2012 in the Matthew Training Center, Joe Foss Bldg, 523 E. Capitol Ave. Pierre SD. The Chief Engineer's recommendations are not final or binding upon the Board. The Board is authorized to 1) approve, 2) approve with qualifications, 3) defer, or 4) deny these applications based on the facts presented at the public hearing.

Any interested person who intends to participate in the hearing shall file a petition to oppose or support the applications and the petition shall be filed with BOTH the applicant and Chief Engineer. The applicant must also file a petition if opposed to the Chief Engineer's recommendations. The Chief Engineer's address is "Water Rights Program, Foss Building, 523 E Capitol, Pierre SD 57501 (605 773-3352)" and the applicant's mailing address is given above. A petition filed by either an interested person or the applicant must be filed by September 24, 2012. The petition may be informal, but shall be in writing and shall include a statement describing the petitioner's interest in the applications, the petitioner's reasons for opposing or supporting the applications, and the signature and mailing address of the petitioner or the petitioner's legal counsel, if legal counsel is obtained. The hearing is an adversary proceeding and any party has the right to be present at the hearing and to be represented by a lawyer. These and other due process rights will be forfeited if they are not exercised at the hearing and decisions of the Board may be appealed to the Circuit Court and State Supreme Court as provided by law.

The October 3, 2012 hearing date will be automatically delayed for at least 20 days upon written request to the Chief Engineer from the applicant or any person who has filed a petition to oppose or support the applications. The request for an automatic delay must be filed by September 24, 2012. If an automatic delay is requested, the hearing will be rescheduled for a future Board meeting and personal notice will be provided to all petitioners regarding the time, date and location.

Contact Eric Gronlund by September 24, 2012 at the above Chief Engineer's address to request copies of the staff report, recommendations, applications or other information. Notice is given to individuals with disabilities that this hearing is being held in a physically accessible place. Please notify the Department of Environment and Natural Resources at least 48 hours before the hearing if you have a disability for which special arrangements must be made at the hearing. The telephone number for making arrangements is (605) 773-3352.

Under SDCL 1-26-17(7) notices must state that "if the amount in controversy exceeds \$2,500.00 or if a property right may be terminated, any party to the contested case may require the agency to use the Office of Hearing Examiners by giving notice of the request to the agency no later than ten days after service of a notice of hearing issued pursuant to SDCL 1-26-17." This is a Notice of Hearing, service is being provided by publication, and the applicable date to give notice to the Chief Engineer is September 24, 2012. However, since this particular matter is a water permit application and not a monetary controversy in excess of \$2,500.00 or termination of a property right the Chief Engineer disputes the applicability of this provision and maintains that the hearing must be conducted by the Board.

As applicable, the following provides the legal authority and jurisdiction under which the hearing will be held and the particular statutes and rules pertaining to these applications: SDCL 1-26-16 thru 1-26-28; SDCL 46-1-1 thru 46-1-9, 46-1-13 thru 46-1-16; 46-2-3.1, 46-2-9, 46-2-11, 46-2-17; 46-2A-1 thru 46-2A-12, 46-2A-14, 46-2A-15, 46-2A-20, 46-2A-21, 46-2A-23; 46-5-1.1, 46-5-2 thru 46-5-26, 46-5-30.2 thru 46-5-30.4, 46-5-31 46-5-32 thru 46-5-34.1, 46-5-38 thru 46-5-39, 46-5-46, 46-5-47, 46-5-49; 46-6-1 thru 46-6-3.1, 46-6-6.1, 46-6-10, 46-6-13, 46-6-14, 46-6-21, 46-6-26; and Board Rules ARSD 74:02:01:01 thru 74:02:01:25.02; 74:02:01:35.01.

Steven M. Pirner, Secretary, Department of Environment and Natural Resources.