April 6, 2016

RECEIVED
APR - 7 2016
WATER RIGHTS
PROGRAM

To: Chief Engineer Water Rights Program

This letter is notification of my intent to oppose the approval of water right application NO. 8200-3 for Don Schaefer.

It is my opinion that this project would have wells that are to close to my well field and the Hageman well field. If 8200-3 wells were constructed exactly between my wells and Hageman wells the distance would be 1900 ft between. My 45 years of experience with irrigation in this aquifer tells me that available water is very limited evidenced by the extensive test holing that has been done by myself and neighbors and relatives to the west and south of my section 22 project. The projects in this aquifer both north and south of Hoven prove that finding areas of saturation in the 25-27 foot range is extremely limited.

Withdrawls can easily exceed recharge in dry years. We have had back to back snowless winters. My fear is that to much withdrawl in a small area such as three well fields in a 3800 ft distance is dangerous and puts all of us in peril of excessive drawdown in water levels which could curtail well production.

All permit holders have gotten by pretty well over the last 35 years. I think it is not in the best interest of all parties concerned to potentialy put at risk the large investments in irrigation that those of us have made.

Also, it is my contention that test hole data and distance restrictions should be part of the consideration of this permit.

Frank Zweber
32043 S.D. Hwy 20
Hoven S.D. 57450