# State of Washington
# REPORT OF EXAMINATION
# FOR WATER RIGHT CHANGE

Added or Changed Point of Withdrawal

**PRIORITY DATE**
March 15, 1971

**WATER RIGHT NUMBER**
G3-00637

**MAILING ADDRESS**
CITY OF MOSES LAKE
321 SOUTH BALSAM
PO BOX 1579
MOSES LAKE, WA 98837

**SITE ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT)**

## Total Quantity Authorized for Withdrawal or Diversion

| WITHDRAWAL OR DIVERSION RATE | UNITS | ANNUAL QUANTITY (AF/YR) |
|---|---|---|
| 6000 | GPM | 1200 |

## Purpose

| PURPOSE | WITHDRAWAL OR DIVERSION RATE ADDITIVE | WITHDRAWAL OR DIVERSION RATE NON-ADDITIVE | UNITS | ANNUAL QUANTITY (AF/YR) ADDITIVE | ANNUAL QUANTITY (AF/YR) NON-ADDITIVE | PERIOD OF USE (mm/dd) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Municipal Water Supply Purposes | 6000 | | GPM | 1200 | | 01/01 - 12/31 |

**PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM INFORMATION**

| WATER SYSTEM ID | CONNECTIONS |
|---|---|
| 56300X | **undefined** |

## Source Location

| COUNTY | WATERBODY | TRIBUTARY TO | WATER RESOURCE INVENTORY AREA |
|---|---|---|---|
| GRANT | GROUNDWATER | | 41-LOWER CRAB |

*Existing City Well Locations

**Well #3** – 1950 feet west and 1000 feet north from the Southeast corner of Section 15, within the SW¼SE¼ of Section 15, T 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.

**Well #4** – 1370 feet west and 1520 feet north from the Southeast corner of Section 28, within the NW¼SE¼ of Section 28, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.

**Well # 5** -- Future re-construction - NE¼ SE¼ of Section 23, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.

**Well #7** – 1150 feet east and 1 foot north from the Southwest corner of Section 14, within the SW¼SW¼ of Section 14, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.

**Well #8** – 105 feet west and 1385 feet south from the Northeast corner of Section 27, within the SE¼NE¼ of Section 27, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.

**Well #9** – 1200 feet east and 1200 feet south from the Northwest corner of Section 15, within the NW¼NW¼ of Section 15, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well #10** – 785 feet west and 240 feet south from the N¼ corner of Section 27, within the NE¼NW¼ of Section 27, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well #11** – 130 feet west and 500 feet north from the Southeast corner of Section 14, within the SE¼SE¼ of Section 14, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well #12** – 200 feet west and 1200 feet north from the Southeast corner of Section 13, within the SE¼SE¼ of Section 13, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well # 13** -- Future re-construction NW¼NE¼ of Section 36. T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well #14** – 620 feet west and 900 feet south from the Northeast corner of Section 15, within the NE¼NE¼ of Section 15, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well # 15** -- Future re-construction - SW¼NE¼ of Section 20. T. 19 N., R. 29 E.W.M.
**Well # 16** -- Future re-construction - NW¼SE¼ of Section 20. T. 19 N., R. 29 E.W.M.
**Well #17** – 130 feet east and 280 feet north from the W¼ corner of Section 21, within the SW¼NW¼ of Section 21, T. 19 N., R. 29 E.W.M.
**Well #21**– 1240 feet west and 1800 feet north from the Southeast corner of Section 32, within the NE¼SE¼ of Section 32, T. 20 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well # 22** -- Future re-construction - NE¼NW¼ of Section 32. T. 20 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well #23** – 650 feet east and 2200 feet south from the Northwest corner of Section 33, within the SW¼NW¼ of Section 33, T. 20 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well #24** – 660 feet east and 120 feet north from the S¼ corner of Section 4, within the SW¼SE¼ of Section 4, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well #28** – 660 feet west and 1370 feet north from the S¼ corner of Section 4, within the NE¼SW¼ of Section 4, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well #29** – 300 feet east and 1700 feet south from the Northwest corner of Section 27, within the SW¼NW¼ of Section 27, T. 20 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well #31** – 1110 feet east and 720 feet south from the W¼ corner of Section 29, within the NW¼SW¼ of Section 29, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well # 32** -- Future re-construction - SW¼SW¼ of Section 29. T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.

**Proposed Wells**

**F-1 (Well #18)** 100 feet east and 100 feet south from the Northwest corner of Section 20, within the NW¼NW¼ of Section 20, T. 19 N., R. 29 E.W.M.
**F-2** SW¼SW¼ of Section 17, T. 19 N., R. 29 E.W.M.
**F-3** SW¼SE¼ of Section 18, T. 19 N., R. 29 E.W.M.
**F-4** SE¼SW¼ of Section 17, T. 19 N., R. 29 E.W.M.
**F-5** SW¼SE¼ of Section 25, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**F-6** SE¼SW¼ of Section 4, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**F-7** NE¼NE¼ of Section 20, T. 19 N., R. 29 E.W.M.
**F-8** SW¼SE¼ of Section 4, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**F-9** SW¼NE¼ of Section 16, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**F-10 (Well No. 19)** SW¼NW¼ of Section 7, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M. (Moses Point Well)

**F-11** NW¼SW¼ of Section 7, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**F-12** NW¼NW¼ of Section 18, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**F-13** NE¼SW¼ of Section 33, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**F-14** SE¼NW¼ of Section 16, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**F-15** NE¼NW¼ of Section 15, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.

## Place of Use (See Attached Map)

**PARCELS (NOT LISTED FOR SERVICE AREAS)**

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF AUTHORIZED PLACE OF USE**

The place of use (POU) of this water right is the Area Served by the City of Moses Lake Service Area described in the most recent Water System Plan/Small Water System Management Program approved by the Washington State Department of Health, so long as the water system is and remains in compliance with the criteria in RCW 90.03.386(2). RCW 90.03.386 may have the effect of revising the place of use of this water right.

## Proposed Works

A municipal Water System

## Development Schedule

| BEGIN PROJECT | COMPLETE PROJECT | PUT WATER TO FULL USE |
|---|---|---|
| August 1, 2015 | August 1, 2020 | January 1, 2025 |

## Measurement of Water Use

| | |
|---|---|
| How often must water use be measured? | Weekly |
| How often must water use data be reported to Ecology? | Upon Request |
| What volume should be reported? | Acre-feet |
| What rate should be reported? | Annual Peak Rate of Withdrawal (gpm) |

## Provisions

Certificate of Change Vol 1-3-272 and Report of Examination for Change dated January 5, 1994 are superseded by this authorization.

**Wells, Well Logs and Well Construction Standards**
All wells constructed in the state must meet the construction requirements of WAC 173-160 titled "Minimum Standards for the Construction and Maintenance of Wells" and RCW 18.104 titled "Water Well Construction". Any well which is unusable, abandoned, or whose use has been permanently discontinued, or which is in such disrepair that its continued use is impractical or is an environmental, safety or public health hazard must be decommissioned.

All wells must be tagged with a Department of Ecology unique well identification number. If you have an existing well and it does not have a tag, please contact the well-drilling coordinator at the regional Department of Ecology office issuing this decision. This tag must remain attached to the well. If you are required to submit water measuring reports, reference this tag number.

Installation and maintenance of an access port as described in WAC 173-160- 291(3) is required.

**Measurements, Monitoring, Metering and Reporting**
An approved measuring device must be installed and maintained for each of the sources identified by this water right in accordance with the rule "Requirements for Measuring and Reporting Water Use", WAC 173-173, which describes the requirements for data accuracy, device installation and operation, and information reporting. It also allows a water user to petition the Department of Ecology for modifications to some of the requirements.

**Department of Health Requirements**
Prior to any new construction or alterations of a public water supply system, the State Board of Health rules require public water supply owners to obtain written approval from the Office of Drinking Water of the Washington State Department of Health. Please contact the Office of Drinking Water prior to beginning (or modifying) your project at DOH/Division of Environmental Health, 16201 E. Indiana Avenue, Suite 1500, Spokane Valley, WA 99216, (509) 329-2100.

**Water Use Efficiency**
The water right holder is required to maintain efficient water delivery systems and use of up-to-date water conservation practices consistent with RCW 90.03.005.

**Proof of Appropriation**
The water right holder must file the notice of Proof of Appropriation of water (under which the certificate of water right is issued) when the permanent distribution system has been constructed and the quantity of water required by the project has been put to full beneficial use. The certificate will reflect the extent of the project perfected within the limitations of the water right. Elements of a proof inspection may include, as appropriate, the source(s), system instantaneous capacity, beneficial use(s), annual quantity, place of use, and satisfaction of provisions.

**Schedule and Inspections**
Department of Ecology personnel, upon presentation of proper credentials, will have access at reasonable times, to the project location, and to inspect at reasonable times, records of water use, wells, diversions, measuring devices and associated distribution systems for compliance with water law.

**Findings of Facts**
Upon reviewing the investigator's report, I find all facts, relevant and material to the subject application, have been thoroughly investigated. Furthermore, I concur with the investigator that a valid water right exists, that there will be no impairment of existing rights subject to the proposed change and that there will be no detriment to the public interest.

Therefore, I ORDER approval of Application for Change to Certificate G3-00637, subject to existing rights and the provisions specified above.

## Your Right To Appeal

You have a right to appeal this Order to the Pollution Control Hearings Board (PCHB) within 30 days of the date of receipt of this Order. The appeal process is governed by Chapter 43.21B RCW and Chapter 371-08 WAC. "Date of receipt" is defined in RCW 43.21B.001(2).

To appeal you must do the following within 30 days of the date of receipt of the Order.

File your appeal and a copy of this Order with the PCHB (see addresses below). Filing means actual receipt by the PCHB during regular business hours.

- Serve a copy of your appeal and this Order on Ecology in paper form - by mail or in person. (See addresses below.) E-mail is not accepted.
- You must also comply with other applicable requirements in Chapter 43.21B RCW and Chapter 371-08 WAC.

| Street Addresses | Mailing Addresses |
|---|---|
| **Department of Ecology**<br>Attn: Appeals Processing Desk<br>300 Desmond Drive SE<br>Lacey, WA 98503 | **Department of Ecology**<br>Attn: Appeals Processing Desk<br>PO Box 47608<br>Olympia, WA 98504-7608 |
| **Pollution Control Hearings Board**<br>1111 Israel Road SW Ste 301<br>Tumwater, WA 98501 | **Pollution Control Hearings Board**<br>PO Box 40903<br>Olympia, WA 98504-0903 |

Signed at Spokane, Washington, this 11th day of December, 2012.

Keith L. Stoffel, Section Manager

For additional information visit the Environmental Hearings Office Website: http://www.eho.wa.gov. To find laws and agency rules visit the Washington State Legislature Website: http://www1.leg.wa.gov/CodeReviser.

## BACKGROUND

An application for change was submitted by the City of Moses Lake, Washington to the Department of Ecology on December 20, 2001. The City of Moses Lake proposes to add 15 points of withdrawal to this authorization. It is unlikely all 15 well sites will be used. Many of the sites are grouped together, and only one site in an area may ultimately be constructed.

Twenty (20) Applications for Change were received from the City of Moses Lake under the following water right documents: Water Right Claim Nos. **004020**, **004021**, Ground Water Certificates **2091-A**, **5223-A** with chg 1-3-272, **G3-00637C** with chg 1-3-272, **G3-00638C** with chg 1-3-272, **G3-26379C**, **G3-28169P** together with report of examination dated January 5th, 1994, **4138-A** with chg 1-3-272, and report of examination dated January 5th, 1994, **2099-A** with chg 1-3-272, and report of examination dated January 5th, 1994, **328-A** with chg 1-3-272, and report of examination dated January 5th, 1994, **G3-01326C** with chg 1-3-272, and report of examination dated January 5th, 1994, **4031-A** with chg 1-3-272, and report of examination dated January 5th, 1994, **G3-00842C** with chg 1-3-272, and report of examination dated January 5th, 1994, **52-A** with chg 1-3-272, 1169, 1-3-148, and report of examination dated January 5th, 1994, **80-D** with chg 272 and 1170, and report of examination dated January 5th, 1994,

**892-A** together with the Modification of the Record of Decision dated October 27th, 2000, **876-A** with chg 272, and report of examination dated January 5th, 1994, **G3-01550C** together with the Report of Examination dated February 13, 2001 and **G3-01465** w/chg 1-3-499 together with Report of Examination dated February 13, 2001. The applications request integration of wells, additional wells and change in place of use and some requesting a change in purpose of use.

These applications will all have decisions rendered based on their own respective findings. Once approved, all Certificates of Change will be superseded by this authorization and become null and void.

A notice of application was published on April 26 and May 3, 2002 in the Columbia Basin Herald in accordance with RCW 90.03.280 and no protests or objections were received.

## State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)

A water right application is subject to a SEPA threshold determination (i.e., an evaluation whether there are likely to be significant adverse environmental impacts) if any one of the following conditions are met.

- It is a surface water right application for more than 1 cubic foot per second, unless that project is for agricultural irrigation, in which case the threshold is increased to 50 cubic feet per second, so long as that irrigation project will not receive public subsidies;
- It is a groundwater right application for more than 2,250 gallons per minute;
- It is an application that, in combination with other water right applications for the same project, collectively exceed the amounts above;
- It is a part of a larger proposal that is subject to SEPA for other reasons (e.g., the need to obtain other permits that are not exempt from SEPA);
- It is part of a series of exempt actions that, together, trigger the need to do a threshold determination, as defined under WAC 197-11-305.

Because this application, in combination with other applications, would entail the withdrawal of more than 2,250 gallons per minute, it is subject to SEPA.

A final Determination of Non-Significance was issued by Keith Stoffel of the Department of Ecology on October 2, 2012, stating that no environmental impact statement is required.

## Water Right and Well Information

Ground Water Certificate G3-00637 together with Change Vol 1-3-272 together with Report of Examination dated January 5, 1994 confirmed a right of 6000 gallons per minute, 1200 acre-feet per year from 22 wells for Municipal Supply for the area served by the City of Moses Lake.

The authorized well sites are described as follows:

*Existing City Well Locations
**Well #3** – 1950 feet west and 1000 feet north from the Southeast corner of Section 15, within the SW¼SE¼ of Section 15, T 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well #4** – 1370 feet west and 1520 feet north from the Southeast corner of Section 28, within the NW¼SE¼ of Section 28, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well # 5** -- Future re-construction - NE¼ SE¼ of Section 23, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
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**F-13** NE¼SW¼ of Section 33, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**F-14** SE¼NW¼ of Section 16, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**F-15** NE¼NW¼ of Section 15, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.

## INVESTIGATION

In considering the proposed application for change/transfer, the investigation included, but was not limited to, research and review of (1) appropriate rules and statutes; (2) Ground Water Certificates and other water rights/claims/applications in the vicinity; (3) water well reports for the applicant's well, and other wells in the vicinity; (4) USGS topographic maps; (5) discussions with Department of Ecology program staff; including review by Ecology hydrogeologists.

Applications for City of Moses Lake Water Rights for Municipal Water Supply Purposes:

**TABLE 1**

| Water Rights w/chgs 1170, 272, 148 | Priority Date | Well(s) | Primary GPM | Prim Ac-Ft | Supp Ac-Ft | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| GWC 80-D | 9- -1940 | 22 | 300 | 480* | | See G3-01326 and G3-00637 |
| GWC 52-A | 11-19-45 | 22 | 500 | 500 | | See 328-A |
| GWC 328-A | 7-29-48 | 22 | 300 | 273 | | See 52-A |
| GWC 876-A | 5-18-50 | 22 | 750 | 564 | | |
| GWC 2091-A | 11-18-52 | 1 | 1000 | 1600 | | |
| GWC 2099-A | 12-5-52 | 22 | 800 | 750 | | |
| GWC 4138-A | 5-7-59 | 22 | 1600 | 160 | | |
| GWC 4031-A | 10-17-60 | 22 | 1535 | 1029 | 2304 | |
| GWC 5223-A | 3-28-63 | 22 | 1500 | | 2400 | |
| G3-01326C | 6-2-69 | 22 | 2150 | | 3440* | See 80-D and G3-00637C |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| G3-00637C | 3-15-71 | 22 | 6000 | 1200 | | |
| G3-00638C | 4-13-71 | 22 | 2000 | | 3200 | |
| G3-00842C | 4-13-71 | 22 | 970 | | 1500 | |
| G3-26379C | 10-22-79 | 22 | 4500 | 2000 | | |
| G3-28169P | 2-28-86 | 22 | 1000 | 200 | | |
| | | | | | | |
| **Sub Totals** | | | **24905** | **8756** | | |
| | | | | | | |
| CGWC 892-A | 3-01-50 | 1 | 1000 | 88 | | Change development |
| CG3-01550C | 6-16-69 | 22 | 500 | 224 | | Change development |
| CG3-01465C | 3-18-68 | 22 | 1000 | 226 | | Change development |
| | | | | | | |
| Sub Totals | | | 2500 | 538 | | |
| **Total** | | | **27405** | **9294** | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Claim 004020 | 1942 | 1 | 1300 | 2100 | | |
| Claim 004021 | 1943 | 1 | 1100 | 1700 | | |
| | | | | | | |
| **Total** | | | **29805** | **13094** | | |

*Report of Examination dated 1/5/94 recognized these annual quantities, when reissued, shall not exceed the maximum annual quantity that can be obtained by pumping at their certificated rate in gallons per minute.

Certificates 892-A, G3-01550 and G301465 were changed to municipal water supply purposes and acquired by the City for future expansion and development. These rights are in various stages of development.

## Other Rights Appurtenant to the Place of Use

There are multiple water right documents issued to individuals throughout the service area of the City of Moses Lake.

A large portion of the City of Moses Lake lies within the boundaries of the Moses Lake Irrigation District. The City confirms irrigation is being served by the Moses Lake Irrigation District under Superseding Surface Water Certificate 4887 to various properties within the City Service Area. Surface Water Certificate 4887 confirms a right to store 50,000 acre-feet of water in Moses Lake for irrigation of 4174 acres within the Moses Lake Irrigation District Boundaries.

In addition to the City water rights described above, 16 additional water right claims were filed by the City of Moses Lake described as follows:

| Claim No. | Priority Date | Well S- T- R | GPM | Ac-Ft | Purpose | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **002852** | **1944** | 15-19-28 | **1000** | **1000** | Municipal | Well No. 6 |
| 003733 | 1956 | 23-19-28 | 970 | 1500 | Municipal | Well No. 5 |
| 003734 | 1957 | 14-19-28 | 2000 | 3200 | Municipal | Well No. 7 |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 004022 | 1954 | 33-20-28 | 1000 | 1600 | Domestic, Industrial | Well No. 23 |
| 004023 | 1961 | 4-19-28 | 1700 | 2700 | Domestic, Industrial | Well No. 28 |
| 004024 | 1955 | 27-20-28 | 750 | 1200 | Domestic Industrial | Well No. 29 |
| 002853 | 1963 | 13-19-28 | 100 | 100 | Irrigation -40ac. Industrial | Well |
| **146402** | **1934** | 28-19-28 | **250** | **400** | Municipal Supply | well |
| **146403** | **1940** | 23-19-28 | **1000** | **1600** | Municipal Supply | well |
| **146404** | **1939** | 15-19-28 | **500** | **800** | Municipal Supply | well |
| **146405** | **1936** | 15-19-28 | **500** | **800** | Municipal Supply | well |
| **146406** | **1940** | 27-19-28 | **500** | **800** | Municipal Supply | well |
| 146407 | 1947 | 21-19-28 | 250 | 400 | Municipal Supply | well |
| 146408 | 1947 | 28-19-28 | 600 | 968 | Municipal Supply | well |
| 146409 | 1948 | 29-19-28 | 500 | 800 | Municipal Supply | Well No. 32 |
| **146410** | **1936** | 33-19-28 | **750** | **7200** | Municipal Supply | well |
| | | | | | | |
| **Pre 1945** | | | **4500** | **12600** | | |

In review of these 16 claims, 7 claims have a priority date prior to 1945. The 9 claims that have a priority date after 1945 would not represent valid water rights and they were not established prior to 1945.

The seven Water Right Claims that predate 1945 claimed the purpose of use as Municipal Supply. The claims identify the uses as Knolls Vista # 12, Park Orchards Tract, Graham Addition, Battery Orchard Tracts and City of Moses Lake. The City of Moses Lake requested authorization to integrate the seven claims into their portfolio of water rights through an application for change filed in 1979. The Report of Examination in 1979 indicated these rights were established prior to 1945 and found the original source wells were no longer in service and unused. It appears the claimed source wells were taken out of service (abandoned and/or decommissioned) when the City extended their service to the area. The City used their other existing wells for delivery to the existing water systems as the original source wells were probably too shallow to be used for the City system due to the quality of the water.

The 1979 Report of Examination confirmed the claimed wells were used up through the 50's and most recently 1970 as expansion of the City system took over. The claimed wells were identified in the 1979 Report of Examination as shallow wells consisting of mostly unconsolidated and semi consolidated sediments overlying basalt with the exception of one well, Claim 146403. Because these wells were determined to be in a separate body of water as the proposed City wells and the claimed source wells were abandoned and/ or no longer in service, the change request was denied. The conclusion of the 1979 Report of Examination also determined the claimed water uses were also abandoned along with the wells and therefore determined the City claims were no longer valid.

In discussions with the City over the years, the City has continued to express concern over the 1979 report and does not agree the claimed rights have been abandoned or relinquished, only the fact that the claimed rights could not be used from their municipal water system because of

the depth of the City wells. Water has continued to be served to these developments from the City water system from other sources and other rights.

RCW 90.03.140(2)(d) states there shall be no relinquishment of any water right if such a right is claimed for municipal water supply purposes under chapter 90.03 RCW. The City has expressed concern that these claimed rights for municipal supply have not been abandoned or relinquished. Although these claimed rights for municipal supply may still be valid, they are claimed from the unconsolidated sedimentary unit and not from the basalt unit of the Quincy Basin.

The intent of the Claims Registration Act, Chapter 90.14 RCW, was to document those uses of surface water in existence prior to the adoption of the State Surface Water Code, Chapter 90.03 RCW, which was adopted in 1917, and those uses of ground water in existence prior to the adoption of the State Ground Water Code, Chapter 90.44 RCW, which was adopted in 1945. Since each code(s) adoption, the only means of acquiring a water right within the state is by filing for, and receiving, a permit from the Department of Ecology or one of its predecessors or is allowed under the domestic exemption to the ground water code (RCW 90.44). The Department of Ecology recognizes that the final determination of the validity and extent associated with a claim registered in accordance with RCW 90.14 ultimately lies with the Superior Court through the general adjudication process provided for by Sections 90.03.110 through 90.03.245 RCW and 90.03.620 through 90.03.645 RCW.

In addition the City of Moses Lake holds Ground Water Certificate G3-27484 in the amount of 50 gallons per minute, 10 acre-feet per year for the sewage treatment plant use and domestic supply, and Quincy Basin Artificially Stored Ground Water Permit 893 for 200 gallons per minute, 31.5 acre-feet per year for irrigation of 9 acres.

## Hydrologic/Hydrogeologic Evaluation

Applications for change of water right permits and certificates are governed by RCW 90.44.100, which states in part: the holder of a valid right to withdraw public ground waters may, without losing his priority of right, construct wells at a new location in substitution for, or in addition to, those at the original location, or he may change the manner or the place of use of the water. Such amendment shall be issued by the Department only on the conditions that: (1) the additional or substitute well or wells shall tap the same body of public ground water as the original well or wells; (2) use of the original well or wells shall be discontinued upon construction of the substitute well or wells; (3) the construction of an additional well or wells shall not enlarge the right conveyed by the original permit or certificate; and (4) other existing rights shall not be impaired. The Department may specify an approved manner of construction and shall require a showing of compliance with the terms of the amendment.

This application proposes to add additional points of withdrawal. The City proposes to use twenty-three (23) existing wells, along with 14 new proposed well sites. The well sites are located at various places within the future service area of the City. Hydrogeologic issues relevant to these changes include the bodies of public groundwater to be tapped by any new facilities, and impairment of existing rights.

The table below is a list of existing wells and geologic data submitted by the City of Moses Lake as follows:

| Well | ¼¼ | Sec | Twp | Rng | Depth | Aquifer | GPM |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | SW¼SE¼ | 15 | 19 | 28 | 909 | Wan/GR | 0 |
| (33)* | Same | 15 | 19 | 28 | | GR | 1000 |
| 4 | NW¼SE¼ | 28 | 19 | 28 | 1000 | Wan/GR | 930 |
| 5 | NE¼SE¼ | 23 | 19 | 28 | 950 | Decommissioned | 0 |
| 7 | SW¼SW¼ | 14 | 19 | 28 | 950 | GR | 910 |
| 8 | SE¼NE¼ | 27 | 19 | 28 | 1045 | Wan/GR | 680 |
| 9 | NW¼NW¼ | 15 | 19 | 28 | 825 | GR | 1230 |
| 10 | NE¼NW¼ | 27 | 19 | 28 | 692 | Wan | 1720 |
| 11 | SE¼SE¼ | 14 | 19 | 28 | 806 | Wan | 1130 |
| 12 | SE¼SE¼ | 13 | 19 | 28 | 568 | Wan | 1990 |
| 13 | NW¼NE¼ | 36 | 19 | 28 | 514 | Decommissioned | 0 |
| 14 | NE¼NE¼ | 15 | 19 | 28 | 1025 | GR | 630 |
| 15 | SW¼NE¼ | 20 | 19 | 29 | 1030 | Wan | 0 |
| 16 | NW¼SE¼ | 20 | 19 | 29 | 910 | Wan | 0 |
| 17 | SW¼NW¼ | 21 | 19 | 29 | 1240 | GR | 2000 |
| 18 | NW¼NW¼ | 20 | 19 | 29 | 585 | Wan | 2000 |
| 21 | NE¼SE¼ | 32 | 20 | 28 | 712 | Wan | 690 |
| 22 | NE¼NW¼ | 32 | 20 | 28 | 720 | Wan | 0 |
| 23 | SW¼NW¼ | 33 | 20 | 28 | 791 | Wan | 1480 |
| 24 | SW¼SE¼ | 4 | 19 | 28 | 750 | Wan | 1790 |
| 28 | NE¼SW¼ | 4 | 19 | 28 | 750 | Wan | 1640 |
| 29 | SW¼NW¼ | 27 | 20 | 28 | 135 | Wan | 700 |
| 31 | NW¼SW¼ | 29 | 19 | 28 | 696 | Wan | 0 |
| (31)* | Same | 29 | 19 | 28 | 970 | GR | 1200 |
| 32 | SW¼SW¼ | 29 | 19 | 28 | 200 | Wan | 0 |

- *Well No. 3 has been capped and replacement well 33 was constructed.
- *Well No. 31 has been capped and a replacement well constructed.

All of the existing wells are described as penetrating the basalt aquifer system.

**Bodies of Public Groundwater**

Bodies of public groundwater relevant to these facilities are the surficial and basalt aquifers of the Columbia Basin. The Columbia Basin aquifers are part of a large ground water reservoir occurring in sediments above and in the thick series of basalt flows known as the Columbia River Basalt Group. The thickness of this series of flows varies from a few hundred feet at the Spokane River to over 10,000 feet in the Pasco Basin. The relatively flat-lying land surface slopes in a southerly direction.

All wells in the table above produce ground water from the basalt aquifers. All new wells constructed under this change shall be required to produce water from basalt aquifers; no new wells will be permitted under this application constructed to produce water from surficial sediments.

**Impairment Considerations**

"Impair" or "impairment" means to 1) adversely impact the physical availability of water for a beneficial use that is entitled to protection, and/or 2) to prevent the beneficial use of the water to which one is entitled, and/or 3) to adversely affect the flow of a surface water course at a time when the flows are at or below instream flow levels established by rule (POL-1200); and/or 4) degrade the quality of the source to the point that water is unsuitable for use by existing water right holders (WAC 173-150). Demonstration of impairment would require evidence of a substantial and lasting or frequent impact reflecting such conditions.

Moses Lake has provided copies of hydrographs, or plots of water levels obtained from historic measurements of existing wells over time, to the Department for review. These hydrographs indicate ample evidence of well interference between wells in the Moses Lake vicinity. Yet, review of those hydrographs indicate that this interference does not significantly adversely impact the physical availability of water for beneficial use, let alone prevent beneficial use by other users. Well interference between wells is to be expected as cones of depression of the water table created by pumping merge together. Merging these cones of depression creates a general lowering of the water table which is ultimately balanced by available recharge. Increasing the number of cones of depression without increasing the total volume and rate of pumping decreases the general lowering of the water table at steady state.

As there is no increase in quantity requested or authorized by this change, increasing the number of points of withdrawal to obtain water at the same rate will in effect lessen the impact of pumping on other users. Thus, there is no evidence of a substantial and lasting adverse impact to the physical availability of water in this area.

**Beneficial use**

The City of Moses Lake holds numerous water rights. In review of their Water System Plan, the City is getting close to reaching its maximum allocation under the Certificates, Permits and Claims subject to the applications for change identified in this report.

Water rights that qualify as rights for municipal supply purposes under RCW 90.03.015(4) are exempt from relinquishment. Through enactment of the MWL, RCW 90.03.330, which governs the issuance of water right certificates, was amended to address the water right certificates that Ecology had historically issued based on system capacity rather than actual beneficial use of water, the so-called "pumps and pipes" certificates.

RCW 90.03.330(2) provides that Ecology may not revoke or diminish certificated water rights for municipal water supply purposes, including those documented by "pumps and pipes" certificates covered under RCW 90.03.330(3) except when the agency: (1) issues certificates under RCW 90.03.240 at the conclusion of general water rights adjudications; (2) issues certificates following changes,

transfers, or amendments under RCW 90.03.380 or 90.44.100; or (3) determines that a certificate was issued with ministerial errors or obtained through misrepresentation.

Apart from these exceptions listed in RCW 90.03.330(2), Ecology cannot revoke or diminish a certificate for municipal water supply purposes or revert such a certificate to permit status. RCW 90.03.330(3) provides that water rights for municipal water supply purposes documented by "pumps and pipes" certificates issued prior to September 9, 2003 are "rights in good standing." These water rights include inchoate quantities that have not yet been exercised. Such rights may continue to be exercised to serve new growth, and Ecology is not authorized to revoke or diminish water rights for municipal supply purposes documented by such "pumps and pipes" certificates, except under the circumstances set forth in RCW 90.03.330(2),

Based on this analysis, these rights have been developed and although some use is inchoate, it is in good standing and available for change or transfer.

## Conclusions

There is a water right available for change/transfer under Ground Water Certificate G3-00637C. Ground water has been historically and beneficially used under this right for the purpose of municipal water supply purposes. When considering an application for change to a water right, Ecology must determine that a valid right exists and the proposed change can be made without detriment or injury to existing water rights. Factors considered when determining potential impact include the following:

No Impairment to Existing Rights:

All producing wells involved in this change application are wells producing from basalt aquifers, thus they all produce from the same body of public ground water. No additional instantaneous or annual quantities are to be changed, and installation of additional points of withdrawal does not enlarge the existing rights. No impact to existing beneficial uses or to surface water is anticipated.

No Detriment to the Public Welfare:
There has been no public expression of protest or concern regarding the subject proposal, and no findings through this investigation indicate that there would be detrimental impact to the public welfare through issuance of the proposed change.

No Enhancement of the Original Right:
No withdrawal of water over and above what has been authorized for beneficial use would be authorized through approval of this change.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the above investigation and conclusions, I recommend that the request for change to add 15 wells to the water right be approved in the amounts and within the limitations listed below and subject to the provisions.

## Purpose of Use and Authorized Quantities

The amount of water recommended is a maximum limit and the water user may only use that amount of water within the specified limit that is reasonable and beneficial:

6000 gpm
1200 acre-feet per year
Municipal Water Supply Purposes

Points of Withdrawal

*Existing City Well Locations
**Well #3** – 1950 feet west and 1000 feet north from the Southeast corner of Section 15, within the SW¼SE¼ of Section 15, T 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well #4** – 1370 feet west and 1520 feet north from the Southeast corner of Section 28, within the NW¼SE¼ of Section 28, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well # 5** -- Future re-construction - NE¼ SE¼ of Section 23, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well #7** – 1150 feet east and 1 foot north from the Southwest corner of Section 14, within the SW¼SW¼ of Section 14, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well #8** – 105 feet west and 1385 feet south from the Northeast corner of Section 27, within the SE¼NE¼ of Section 27, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well #9** – 1200 feet east and 1200 feet south from the Northwest corner of Section 15, within the NW¼NW¼ of Section 15, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well #10** – 785 feet west and 240 feet south from the N¼ corner of Section 27, within the NE¼NW¼ of Section 27, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well #11** – 130 feet west and 500 feet north from the Southeast corner of Section 14, within the SE¼SE¼ of Section 14, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well #12** – 200 feet west and 1200 feet north from the Southeast corner of Section 13, within the SE¼SE¼ of Section 13, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well # 13** -- Future re-construction NW¼NE¼ of Section 36. T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well #14** – 620 feet west and 900 feet south from the Northeast corner of Section 15, within the NE¼NE¼ of Section 15, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well # 15** -- Future re-construction - SW¼NE¼ of Section 20. T. 19 N., R. 29 E.W.M.
**Well # 16** -- Future re-construction - NW¼SE¼ of Section 20. T. 19 N., R. 29 E.W.M.
**Well #17** – 130 feet east and 280 feet north from the W¼ corner of Section 21, within the SW¼NW¼ of Section 21, T. 19 N., R. 29 E.W.M.
**Well #21**– 1240 feet west and 1800 feet north from the Southeast corner of Section 32, within the NE¼SE¼ of Section 32, T. 20 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well # 22** -- Future re-construction - NE¼NW¼ of Section 32. T. 20 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well #23** – 650 feet east and 2200 feet south from the Northwest corner of Section 33, within the SW¼NW¼ of Section 33, T. 20 N., R. 28 E.W.M.

**Well #24** – 660 feet east and 120 feet north from the S¼ corner of Section 4, within the SW¼SE¼ of Section 4, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well #28** – 660 feet west and 1370 feet north from the S¼ corner of Section 4, within the NE¼SW¼ of Section 4, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well #29** – 300 feet east and 1700 feet south from the Northwest corner of Section 27, within the SW¼NW¼ of Section 27, T. 20 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well #31** – 1110 feet east and 720 feet south from the W¼ corner of Section 29, within the NW¼SW¼ of Section 29, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**Well # 32** -- Future re-construction - SW¼SW¼ of Section 29. T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.

**Proposed Wells**

**F-1 (Well #18)** 100 feet east and 100 feet south from the Northwest corner of Section 20, within the NW¼NW¼ of Section 20, T. 19 N., R. 29 E.W.M.
**F-2** SW¼SW¼ of Section 17, T. 19 N., R. 29 E.W.M.
**F-3** SW¼SE¼ of Section 18, T. 19 N., R. 29 E.W.M.
**F-4** SE¼SW¼ of Section 17, T. 19 N., R. 29 E.W.M.
**F-5** SW¼SE¼ of Section 25, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**F-6** SE¼SW¼ of Section 4, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**F-7** NE¼NE¼ of Section 20, T. 19 N., R. 29 E.W.M.
**F-8** SW¼SE¼ of Section 4, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**F-9** SW¼NE¼ of Section 16, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**F-10 (Well No. 19)** SW¼NW¼ of Section 7, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M. (Moses Point Well)
**F-11** NW¼SW¼ of Section 7, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**F-12** NW¼NW¼ of Section 18, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**F-13** NE¼SW¼ of Section 33, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**F-14** SE¼NW¼ of Section 16, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.
**F-15** NE¼NW¼ of Section 15, T. 19 N., R. 28 E.W.M.

Place of use

Area served by the City of Moses Lake

Kevin Brown 12/11/12

*Kevin Brown, Report Writer* *Date*

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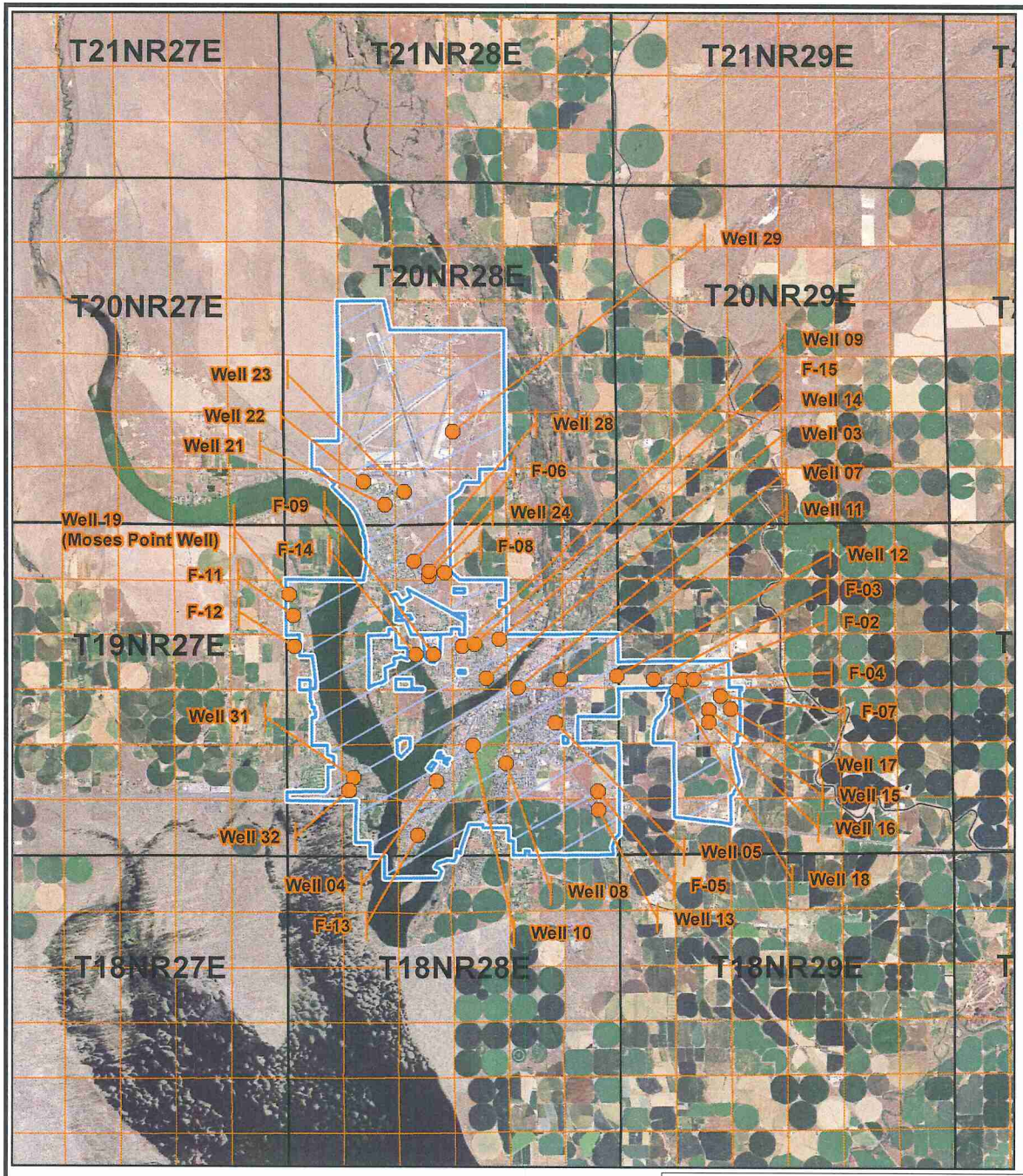


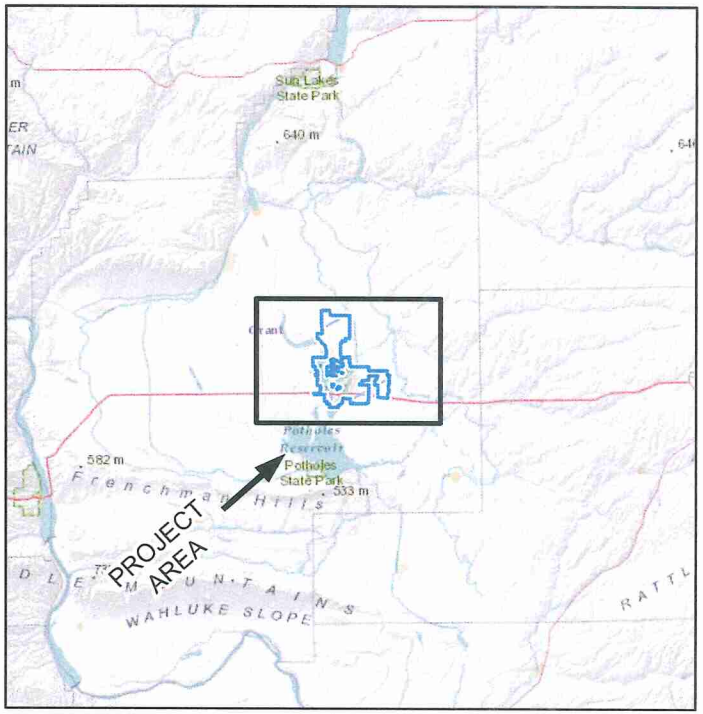


Basemap - (ESRI US Topographic Maps)

**Legend**

- Authorized Place of Use
- Authorized Point of Withdrawal
- Townships
- Sections

0 7,000 14,000 28,000 42,000 56,000 Feet

Basemap - (NAIP 2011 1m color)

Map Date: 11/2/2012

**Comment:**
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ATTACHMENT 1