

# ***Yakima County Water Conservancy Board***

## ***APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE***

### **A. GENERAL**

1. Is the application for a ground water or surface water change? Please provide a completed Application for Change.
  
2. Is the water right a certificate, permit or claim? Please provide the complete Department of Ecology water rights file. File requests can be made by contacting the records officer at Ecology's central regional office, 509-575-2490.
  
3. If surface water, has the right been adjudicated? Please provide excerpts of the relevant Conditional Final Order, Report of Referee and any other pertinent court information.
  
4. Please fully describe the nature of the request, i.e., why the change is needed, what construction would be required, what crops or stock would be affected, etc.

### **B. IS WATER AVAILABLE?**

1. Does the request involve water spreading (e.g. adding) or a change in purpose?
  - a. If spreading, what is the consumptive use of the right (see Chapter 90.03.380 RCW)?
  
  - b. If a change in purpose is requested, will the season of use change? Please explain.

2. Will the request result in a change in point of withdrawal or diversion? Changing points of withdrawal necessitates that the existing and new points of withdrawal be in the same public body of ground water. Changing points of diversion necessitates that the existing and new points of diversion be hydraulically connected. Changing from a surface water diversion to a ground water withdrawal or vice versa typically requires demonstration of connectivity. A professional geologist (PG) or professional engineer (PE) may be required to make such evaluations. Please describe.

#### C. HAS WATER BEEN PUT TO BENEFICIAL USE?

1. Has the right been put to beneficial use:

a. Without any 5-year lapse in non-use since 1967? Describe any periods of non-use, including length of time and reasons.

b. Without any period of physical abandonment since priority date? Describe any periods of abandonment, i.e., was the diversion removed? Were pipelines disconnected?

2. If not done so in part C.1., please provide a full accounting of the use of the right from the priority date to the present. Flow meter data is considered the most compelling evidence of beneficial use. Power records, aerial photographs, tax assessor records, sworn affidavits may also be helpful in establishing beneficial use.

#### D. WOULD THE CHANGE IMPAIR EXISTING RIGHTS?

1. Does the request involve a change or addition to the existing point of diversion (surface water) or point of withdrawal (ground water)? If not done so as part of application, please provide a map showing the existing and proposed projects.

2. Could the change potentially affect other diverters in the area? Change applications may not adversely affect junior or senior water rights, nor may they

adversely affect pending change applications. Contact the central regional office of Ecology to obtain data on existing rights and applications.

a. If yes, please elaborate. This response may require that an independent analysis be performed by an outside consultant hired by the applicant. Please consult with the board to determine the scope of information required.

b. If no, please explain.

#### E. IS THE CHANGE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST?

1. Is the existing right surface water or ground water? Please note that surface water transfers are not subject to the public interest test.

2. If ground water, please explain how the transfer is in the public interest?