

STATE OF NEBRASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

APPROVAL OF APPLICATION A-18686

WATER DIVISION 1-C

Background

On January 21, 2010, Verlin L. Welch, on behalf of Verlin L. Welch Trust No. 1 and Roberta Welch Trust No. 1 (Welch Trusts), filed in the Department of Natural Resources (Department) application A-18686 for a Permit to Appropriate Water and map number 17596 showing land proposed to be irrigated under this application.

Order

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that application A-18686 is APPROVED subject to the following limitations and conditions:

1. The source of water is Spring Branch.
2. The water shall be used for the purpose of irrigation.
3. The priority date is January 21, 2010.
4. Only the land shown on map number 17596 may be irrigated under appropriation A-18686.
5. The rate that water may be diverted under appropriation A-18686 shall not exceed one cubic foot per second (cfs) for every 70 acres irrigated. Total annual volume of water diverted may not exceed 3 acre-feet per acre irrigated.
6. The appropriator must comply with all relevant statutes. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:
  - a. Notify the Department of any change in ownership or address.
  - b. Notify the Department of the name and address of the person responsible for the use of the water appropriation (this may include farm managers, tenants, or relatives that actually apply the water to the approved use).
  - c. Getting approval from the Department prior to taking any action that changes the location of the point of diversion, the location of the place of use, the type of use, or the type of appropriation.

Deadlines

1. Construction of the diversion works must begin within twelve months of the signing date of this application approval. The appropriator must proceed diligently with the construction unless interrupted by some unavoidable and natural cause.
2. Construction of the project must be completed by two years past the signing date of this application approval.
3. The appropriation is not considered perfected until water has been beneficially applied for the purpose stated in this approval. The water appropriated under A-18686 must be beneficially used by September 1, 2012.
4. After September 1, 2012, a field investigation will be conducted to determine the amount of water used and acres irrigated, after which an order of cancellation will be issued for any unused portions of appropriation A-18686.

Additional Information

Failure to comply with all laws and regulations pertaining to surface water appropriations, any orders issued by the Director of the Department of Natural Resources, or the provisions of this Approval may result in the cancellation of the appropriation, temporary closing of the appropriation, administrative penalty, criminal prosecution, or any combination thereof.

Nebraska law provides that failure to use a portion or all of a perfected appropriation for more than five consecutive years may result in cancellation of the appropriation.

This appropriation is not a guarantee that water will be available. Nebraska law gives priority to senior appropriations. This appropriation may be closed if there is insufficient water to satisfy senior appropriations. If in the future you are not able to divert sufficient amounts of water, and if there are junior appropriations upstream, you may call for water by contacting your local field office.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

April 27, 2010

  
Brian P. Dunnigan, P.E., Director

The applicant and any person with sufficient legal interest who has been or may be substantially affected by this order may request a contested case hearing in accordance with the Nebraska Administrative Procedures Act (Sections 84-901 et. seq. RSS) and the Department's Rules of Practice and Procedure (454 N.A.C. Chapter 007). The request must be received by the

Department at its Lincoln office (301 Centennial Mall South, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor State Office Building, Lincoln, NE 68509-4676) within 30 days of the date of the order and be accompanied by a filing fee of \$10.

A copy of this approval was posted on the Department's website and provided to the Department's field office in Lincoln, Nebraska. A copy of this approval was mailed on April 27, 2010, to the following:

Verlin L. Welch Trust No. 1 and Roberta Welch Trust No. 1  
c/o Verlin L. Welch  
398 Road 6900  
Hubbell, Nebraska 68375