

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

County of Hutchinson)

) ss.

State of South Dakota)

Jeremy Waltner, of said county and state, being duly sworn, on his oath, deposes and says: That The Courier is a weekly newspaper of general circulation and a legal newspaper as required by law, printed and published in the town of Freeman in said county and state by Jeremy Waltner, and has been such newspaper during the time hereinafter mentioned: That I, Jeremy Waltner, the undersigned, am publisher of said newspaper in charge of the advertising department thereof, and have personal knowledge of all the facts stated in this affidavit, and that the advertisement headed Application to appropriate water

a printed copy of which is hereto attached, was printed and published in the said newspaper for one successive issues to-wit:

The first publication on: August 29, 2024

the second publication on:

and the third publication on:

That the full amount of the fees charged for publishing the same to-wit: The sum of \$81.39 insures solely to the benefit of the publisher of The Courier, that no agreement or understanding for any division thereof has been made with any other person whomsoever, and the amount of \$81.39 is the rate for publishing legal notices.

[Handwritten signature]

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31st day of August 2024.

[Handwritten signature]

Notary Public
Commission expires: 10/098/2024

Publication fee: \$81.39
Notary fee:
Total: \$81.39

RECEIVED
SEP 30 2024
OFFICE OF
WATER

NOTICE OF HEARING

Application No. 8616-3 to appropriate water

Notice is given that Michael Schultz, 43721 281st St, Freeman SD 57029 has filed an application for a water permit to irrigate an additional 21 acres. Water Permit No. 7344-3 appropriates 5.33 cubic feet of water per second (cfs) from three wells completed into the Niobrara Aquifer (163, 180, and 209 feet deep) located near the center of the SE 1/4 Section 8; NE 1/4 SW 1/4, SE 1/4 NE 1/4 Section 9; all in T98N-R56W for irrigation of 399 acres. The permit also authorized a storage pond/reservoir which is located in the W 1/2 SE 1/4 Section 9-T98N-R56W. An investigation of the permit found the system capable of diverting 2.56 cfs from the existing wells and irrigating an additional 21 acres. The irrigated acreage, including the 21 additional acres, is located in the SE 1/4, S 1/2 NE 1/4 Section 8; SW 1/4, S 1/2 NW 1/4, NE 1/4, N 1/2 SE 1/4 Section 9; all in T98N-R56W. Water can be pumped from the three wells to the storage pond and then applied to the acreage. This application, if approved, and Water Permit No. 7344-3 will authorize a total diversion rate of 2.56 cfs for irrigation of 420 acres. This site is located approximately 2 miles southwest of Freeman SD.

South Dakota Codified Law (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 recommendation and no hearing may be held before the board, unless the Chief Engineer makes a finding that an application, even if uncontested, presents impor-

tant issues of public policy or public interest that should be heard by the board." In this case, the Chief Engineer finds that this application presents important issues of public interest that should be heard by the Water Management Board.

Pursuant to SDCL 46-2A-2, the Chief Engineer recommends APPROVAL of Application No. 8616-3 with qualifications because 1) there is reasonable probability that there is unappropriated water available for the applicant's proposed use, 2) the proposed diversion can be developed without unlawful impairment of existing domestic water uses and water rights, 3) the proposed use is a beneficial use and 4) it is in the public interest as it pertains to matters of public interest within the regulatory authority of the Water Management Board. The Chief Engineer's recommendation with qualifications, the application, and staff report are available at <https://danr.sd.gov/public> or contact Ron Duvall for this information, or other information, at the Water Rights Program address provided below.

The Water Management Board will consider this application at 10:00 AM (Central Time) on October 2, 2024, in the Matthew Training Center, Joe Foss Bldg, 523 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre SD. The Chief Engineer's recommendation is not final or binding upon the Board. The Board is authorized to 1) approve, 2) approve with qualifications, 3) defer, or 4) deny this application based on the facts presented at the public hearing.

Any person who intends to participate in the hearing shall allege that the application, upon approval, will cause injury to the person that is unique from any

injury suffered by the public in general. The injury must concern a matter either within the regulatory authority found in SDCL 46-2A-9 for approval or denial of the application, or other matter concerning the application within the regulatory authority of the board to act upon as defined by SDCL 46-2-9 and 46-2-11, or both. Any person meeting the petitioner requirements and wishing to be a party of record in a contested case hearing shall file a written petition to oppose the application with BOTH the applicant and Chief Engineer. A petition opposing the application shall be filed on a form provided by the Chief Engineer. The petition form is available online at <https://danr.sd.gov/public> or by contacting the Chief Engineer. The Chief Engineer's address is "Water Rights Program, Foss Building, 523 E Capitol, Pierre SD 57501" or call (605) 773-3352. The applicant's mailing address is given above. If contesting the Chief Engineer's recommendation, the applicant shall also file a petition. A petition filed by either an interested person or the applicant must be filed by September 9, 2024.

The petition shall be in writing and shall include a statement describing the unique injury upon approval of the application on the petitioner, the petitioner's reasons for opposing the application, and the name 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 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 the application. The request for an automatic delay must be filed by September 9, 2024. If an automatic delay is requested, the hearing will be rescheduled for a future Board meeting and personal notice will be provided to the applicant and all petitioners regarding the time, date, and location.

Any interested person may file a comment on the application with the Chief Engineer. The comment shall be filed on a form provided by the Chief Engineer and is available online at <https://danr.sd.gov/public> or by calling (605) 773-3352 or writing the Chief Engineer at the address provided above. Filing a comment does not make the commenter a party of record or a participant in any hearing that may be held. Any comment must be filed by September 9, 2024.

Notice is given to individuals with disabilities that the meeting is being held in a physically accessible location. Individuals requiring assistive technology or other services in order to participate in the meeting or materials in an alternate format should contact Brian Walsh, Nondiscrimination Coordinator, by calling (605) 773-5559 or by email at Brian.Walsh@state.sd.us as soon as possible but no later than two business days prior to the meeting in order to ensure accommodations are available.

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 9, 2024. 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 this application: 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.

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