



BUILDING A BETTER WORLD

October 3, 2008

Katy Morowka
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Rights
1001 I Street, Sacramento California
(916) 341-5363

Re: Petition for Change – Point of Diversion, Meridian Farms Water Company, License 4676-B, Application 1074, Permit 591

Dear Ms. Morowka,

On behalf of the Meridian Farms Water Company (MFWC), I am submitting to you an application for a Petition for Change (Water Code 1700) for a Point of Diversion on the Sacramento River.

MFWC is located in Sutter County, between Interstate 5 and Highway 99, east of the Sacramento River and southwest of the Sutter Bypass. MFWC provides irrigation water to three distinct Service Areas encompassing approximately 9,150 acres, within an estimated annual water delivery of 35,000 acre-feet. MFWC diverts surface water from the Sacramento River under the provisions of a License for Diversion and Use of Water with a priority date of September 10, 1918. Presently MFWC diversions are at four locations on the Sacramento River: Meridian, Drexler, Grimes and Girner.

The attached application is for a change to the Point of Diversion for the Grimes intake off of the Sacramento River. The existing intake utilizes an unscreened intake which likely entrains juvenile Chinook salmon, steelhead trout, green sturgeon, and other anadromous fish species that pass by the intake. By relocating and improving the Grimes diversion it will fulfill the conservation goals established by the CVPIA, which passed in 1992 for the protection and recovery of fisheries and fish habitat.

Please feel free to call me at (916) 281-8545 or email me at Meredith.B.Parkin@MWHGlobal.com with any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Meredith Parkin".

Meredith Parkin
MWH

State of California
State Water Resources Control Board
DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS
P.O. Box 2000, Sacramento, CA 95812-2000
Info: (916) 341-5300, FAX: (916) 341-5400, Web: <http://www.waterrights.ca.gov>

PETITION FOR CHANGE

(WATER CODE 1700)

Point of Diversion, Point of Rediversion, Place of Use, Purpose of Use
Application 1074 Permit 591 License 4676-B Statement or Other _____

I (we) hereby petition for change(s) noted above and shown on the accompanying map and described as follows:

Point of Diversion or Rediversion (Give coordinate distances from section corner or other ties as allowed by Cal CR 715, and the 40-acre subdivision in which the present & proposed points lie.)

Present: (1) Meridian – North forty-two and one-half degrees west (N42 ½ °W) one thousand nine hundred (1,900) feet from SE corner of Section 13, T15N, R1W, MDB&M, being within NE ¼ of SE ¼ of said Section 13; also described as California Coordinate System, Zone 2, N 539,275 and E 2, 023, 975.

Present: (4) Drexler – South six thousand four hundred fifty (6,450) feet and east two thousand six hundred twenty-five (2,625) feet from NW corner of Section 30, T15 N, R1E, MDB&M, being within NW ¼ of NW ¼ of Section 31, T 15N, R1E, MDB&M.

Present: (5) Grimes: North thirty-three degrees west (N33°W) one thousand (1,000) feet from SE Corner of SW ¼ of NW ¼ of Section 8; T 14 N, R 1 E, MDB&M, being within SW ¼ of NW ¼ of said Section 8; also described as California Coordinate System, Zone 2, N 515,025 and E 2,031,450.

Present: (6) Girner – South thirty-eight degrees east (S38°E) one thousand three hundred (1,300) feet from N ¼ corner of Section 16, T14N, R1E, MDB&M, being within NW ¼ of NE ¼ of said Section 16; also described as California Coordinate System, Zone 2, N 510,525 and E 2,038, 150.

Proposed: (5) New Grimes Diversion: North nine degrees east (N9 E) 1900 feet from SW corner of Section 5, T14N, R1E, MDB&M, being within NW 1/4 of SW 1/4 of said Section 5; also described as California Coordinate System, Zone 2, N518,829 and E 2,030,606 (NAD 27).

Place of Use (If irrigation then state number of acres to be irrigated within each 40-acre tract.)

Present: MFWC provides irrigation water to three separate service areas encompassing 9,150 total acres, with an estimated annual water delivery of 35,000 acre-feet.

Proposed: No change

Purpose of Use

Present: Irrigation

Proposed: No change

Does the proposed use serve to preserve or enhance wetlands habitat, fish and wildlife resources, or recreation in or on the water (See WC 1707)? yes
(yes/no)

- GIVE REASON FOR PROPOSED CHANGE: The primary purpose for the construction of the new diversion is to prevent entrainment of migrating, at-risk, native fish species at Meridian Farms Water

Company's existing Grimes diversion facility by removing the existing intake and installing a fish screen structure at a new intake. The new intake will allow migrating Chinook salmon, steelhead trout, and Sacramento splittail to pass by the intake without risk of entrainment and thus, contribute to the reduction in the decline of the anadromous and resident fish populations in the Sacramento River.

- WILL THE OLD POINT OF DIVERSION OR PLACE OF USE BE ABANDONED yes
(yes/no)
- WATER WILL BE USED FOR Irrigation PURPOSES.

I(we) have access to the proposed point of diversion or control the proposed place of use by virtue of?
Recorded Easements (ownership, lease verbal or written agreement)

Are there any persons taking water from the stream between the old point of return flow and the new point of return flow? No (yes/no)

If by lease or agreement, state the name and address of party(s) from whom access has been obtained.

Recorded easements with Reclamation District 70.

Give name and address of any person(s) taking water from the stream between the present point of diversion or rediversion and the proposed point of diversion or rediversion, as well as any other person(s) known to you who may be affected by the proposed change.

N/A

THIS CHANGE DOES NOT INVOLVE AN INCREASE IN THE AMOUNT OF THE APPROPRIATION OR SEASON OF USE.

I (we) declare under penalty of perjury that the above is true and correct to the best of my (our) knowledge and belief.

Dated 10-2-08, 20 08 at _____, California


Signature(s)

530 682-2996
Telephone No.

NOTE: A \$1,000 fee, for each Application listed, made payable to the State Water Resources Control Board and an **\$850 fee** made payable to the Department of Fish and Game must accompany a petition for change.
The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demands and cut your energy costs, see our web-site at: <http://waterrights.ca>.

California Environmental Protection Agency

State Water Resources Control Board

DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

P.O. Box 2000, Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

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**ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION
FOR PETITIONS**

Petition for Change

Petition for Extension of Time

Before the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) can approve a petition to change your water right permit or a petition for extension of time to complete use, the SWRCB must consider the information contained in an environmental document prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This form is not a CEQA document. If a CEQA document has not yet been prepared, a determination must be made of who is responsible for its preparation. As the petitioner, you are responsible for all costs associated with the environmental evaluation and preparation of the required CEQA documents. Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability and submit any studies that have been conducted regarding the environmental evaluation of your project. If you need more space to completely answer the questions, please number and attach additional sheets.

1. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED CHANGES OR WORK REMAINING TO BE COMPLETED

For a petition to change, provide a description of the proposed changes to your project including, but not limited to, type of construction activity, structures existing or to be built, area to be graded or excavated, increase in water diversion and use (up to the amount authorized by the permit), changes in land use, and project operational changes, including changes in how the water will be used. For a petition for extension of time, provide a description of what work has been completed and what remains to be done. Include in your description any of the above elements that will occur during the requested extension period.

See Attachment No. 1

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FOR PETITIONS

2. COUNTY PERMITS

a. Contact your county planning or public works department and provide the following information:

Person contacted: Doug Libby Date of contact: June 2008

Department: Planning Services Telephone: (530) 822-7400

County Zoning Designation: General Agriculture

Are any county permits required for your project? YES NO If YES, check appropriate box below:

Grading permit Use permit Watercourse Obstruction permit Change of zoning

General plan change Other (explain):

Encroachment Permit See attachment 2

b. Have you obtained any of the required permits described above? YES NO

If YES, provide a complete copy of each permit obtained.

See Attachment No. 3

3. STATE/FEDERAL PERMITS AND REQUIREMENTS

a. Check any additional state or federal permits required for your project:

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission U.S. Forest Service Bureau of Land Management

Soil Conservation Service Dept. of Water Resources (Div. of Safety of Dams) Reclamation Board

Coastal Commission State Lands Commission Other (specify) see attached

b. For each agency from which a permit is required, provide the following information:

AGENCY	PERMIT TYPE	PERSON(S) CONTACTED	CONTACT DATE	TELEPHONE NO.

See Attachment No. 4

c. Does your proposed project involve any construction or grading-related activity that has significantly altered or would significantly alter the bed or bank of any stream or lake? YES NO

If YES, explain: _____

See Attachment No. _____

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FOR PETITIONS

- d. Have you contacted the California Department of Fish and Game concerning your project? YES NO
If YES, name and telephone number of contact: _____ Tracy McReynolds (530) 895-511 _____

4. ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS

- a. Has any California public agency prepared an environmental document for your project? YES NO
If YES, submit a copy of the latest environmental document(s) prepared, including a copy of the notice of determination adopted by the California public agency. Public agency: _____ Dept of Fish and Game _____
- b. If NO, check the appropriate box and explain below, if necessary:
- The petitioner is a California public agency and will be preparing the environmental document.*
 - I expect that the SWRCB will be preparing the environmental document.**
 - I expect that a California public agency other than the State Water Resources Control Board will be preparing the environmental document.* Public agency: _____

See Attachment No. 5

* Note: When completed, submit a copy of the final environmental document (including notice of determination) or notice of exemption to the SWRCB, Division of Water Rights. Processing of your petition cannot proceed until these documents are submitted.

** Note: CEQA requires that the SWRCB, as Lead Agency, prepare the environmental document. The information contained in the environmental document must be developed by the petitioner and at the petitioner's expense under the direction of the SWRCB, Division of Water Rights.

5. WASTE/WASTEWATER

- a. Will your project, during construction or operation, (1) generate waste or wastewater containing such things as sewage, industrial chemicals, metals, or agricultural chemicals, or (2) cause erosion, turbidity or sedimentation?
 YES NO project will comply with all required 401 Water Quality Certification measures
If YES, or you are unsure of your answer, explain below and contact your local Regional Water Quality Control Board for the following information (See instruction booklet for address and telephone no.):

See Attachment No. _____

- b. Will a waste discharge permit be required for your project? YES NO
Person contacted: _____ N/A _____ Date of contact: _____
- c. What method of treatment and disposal will be used? _____
_____ General Order Storm Water Permit will be obtained prior to construction _____

See Attachment No. _____

6. ARCHEOLOGY

- a. Have any archeological reports been prepared on this project? YES NO See attachment #7
- b. Will you be preparing an archeological report to satisfy another public agency? YES NO (already complete)
- c. Do you know of any archeological or historic sites located within the general project area? YES NO

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FOR PETITIONS

If YES, explain: _____

See Attachment No. 6

7. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING See attachment 7

Attach **three complete sets of color photographs**, clearly dated and labeled, showing the vegetation that exists at the below-listed three locations. For time extension petitions, the photographs should document only those areas of the project that will be impacted during the requested extension period.

- Along the stream channel immediately downstream from the proposed point(s) of diversion.
- Along the stream channel immediately upstream from the proposed point(s) of diversion.
- At the place(s) where the water is to be used.

8. CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the statements I have furnished above and in the attachments are complete to the best of my ability and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Date: 10-2-08

Signature: 