

2009-21

# WATER TRANSFER WORKING GROUP PROJECT DESCRIPTION

APPLICATION NO./COURT CLAIM NO.		
<b>Court Claim #1752</b>		
APPLICANT NAME Benton Irrigation District	CONTACT NAME Tonya Garberg Chair, Board of Directors	TELEPHONE NO. (509) 588-4396
WATER RIGHT HOLDER'S NAME (if different) The United States on behalf of Sunnyside Division		EMAIL benton.irrigation@verizon.net

DATE OF APPLICATION October 16, 2008	PRIORITY DATE 1) 6-29-1878; 2) 6-30-1878; 3) 9-03-1890; 4) 7-18-1893; 5) 5-09-1905; and 6) 5-10-1905.
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WATER SOURCE: Yakima River	CROP: Varied - perennial & annual crops
INSTANTANEOUS QUANTITY: 1) 24 cfs; 2) 34 cfs; 3) 537 cfs; 4) 30 cfs; 5) 2 cfs; 6) 689 cfs.	ANNUAL QUANTITY: 1) 1925 af/yr; 2) 14,089 af/yr; 3) 145,776 af/yr; 4) 12,698 af/yr; 5) 138 af/yr; 6) 260,796 af/yr.
PERIOD OF USE: April 1 through October 31 each year.	
PLACE OF USE: Irrigable acres within the Sunnyside Division exterior boundaries as of the date of the Stipulation filed with the court on 8-12-2003, as described in the metes and bounds legal description and the map filed with the Stipulation. The legal description is controlling as the description of the Sunnyside Division's place of use.	PURPOSE OF USE: Irrigation of a maximum of 99,244 irrigated acres of the total 103,570 irrigable acres within the Sunnyside Division, and related uses.
IRRIGATION METHOD: Various methods – a mix of flood and rill, sprinkler, and drip irrigation water application methods.	

CONSUMPTIVE USE CALCULATION: Not applicable. These transfers will not change consumptive use. These transfers will not create any secondary reach trust water rights.
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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This project is a YRBWEP-funded water conservation project to upgrade the water delivery system for the Benton Irrigation District (BID) portion (4630 irrigable acres) of the Sunnyside Division's unitary place of use (99,244 irrigated acres of the total 103,570 irrigable acres within the Sunnyside Division). This project will replace the current gravity flow water delivery system from the Sunnyside Canal that supplies water to BID for irrigation and related uses from April 1 through October 31 each year with a proposed new pump and pressurized pipeline delivery system</li> <li>- BID will construct a new pump and pipeline system from a proposed pump plant on the Yakima River upstream of Benton City, located at approximately river mile (RM) 32.5, about 71 river miles downstream from the Sunnyside Canal diversion point (at RM 103.8). BID will no longer utilize, or take delivery of water from, the Sunnyside Canal once the new pump and pipeline system is completed and operational.</li> <li>- This project requires adding a new point of diversion (the new downstream pump plant) to each of the six (6) water rights confirmed to the United States on behalf of Sunnyside Division for irrigation and related uses from April 1 through October 31. This new pump plant will contractually serve only the BID portion (4630 irrigable acres) of the unitary Sunnyside Division place of use. BID will utilize its new pump plant to divert water from the Yakima River under the same water sharing arrangement it currently enjoys from the Sunnyside Canal as a member entity of the Sunnyside Division, with a 68.9% non-proratable and 31.1% proratable water right status, as confirmed for the United States/Sunnyside Division water rights by the Acquavella Court's 8-14-2003 Conditional Final Order.</li> <li>- This project will also create water savings that will be protected for instream flow augmentation and enhancement use in the State Trust Water Rights Program under the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding between Reclamation and Ecology "for</li> </ul>
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Water Marketing and for Management of Trust Water Rights in the Yakima River Basin” entered July 9, 2008. The trust water rights associated with this project will be only primary reach trust water rights, applicable only between the Sunnyside Canal diversion point and the proposed new downstream pump plant or the last historic return flow point for the conserved water. No consumptive use will be followed, so no secondary reach trust water rights can be created.

- Reclamation, Sunnyside Division Board of Control (SDBOC), and BID, all signed a diversion reduction agreement on November 4, 2008, as amended on February 19, 2009, that provides that upon completion of this BID water conservation project: 1) SDBOC will “reduce the diversion at the Sunnyside Dam in the quantity of 70 cfs, 21,044 acre-feet annually... (s)uch quantity will be redirected to the new point of diversion”, and 2) “BID agrees to reduce its total diversion from the Yakima River at Benton City to 15,623 acre feet per year with a maximum instantaneous diversion of 60 cfs. During years of proration, this amount will be reduced at the proportionate share of 68.9% non-prorated and 31.1% prorated.”

- BID’s use of the new pump plant will conserve 2524 acre-feet per year of water historically lost as conveyance water losses in the Sunnyside Canal associated with the delivery of the BID water. This water will be applied to instream flow enhancement use from the Sunnyside Canal diversion point to the new pump plant located about 71 river miles downstream.

- BID’s pressurized water delivery system will conserve an additional 4346 af/yr of water on BID’s service area, one-third of which (1449 af/yr) will be beneficially used by BID, and two-thirds of which (2897 af/yr) will be used for instream flow enhancement in the Yakima River from the new pump plant to a the last return flow point from the BID service area about 9 miles downstream at RM 23.8, at the discharge point for the old Kiona Canal wasteway.

- The 2524 af/yr of former conveyance water and the 2897 af/yr (the 2/3rds) of the BID conserved water total 5421 af/yr of water in sum that will be transferred to the State Trust Water Rights Program for use as primary-reach-only instream flow augmentation trust water rights.

- The Sunnyside Dam total diversion reduction amount of 70 cfs, 21,044 af/yr, will either be transferred to the State Trust Water Rights Program for use as primary-reach-only instream flow augmentation trust water rights from the Sunnyside Dam to the proposed new pump plant or will simply be managed by Reclamation as an operational delivery to the new BID pump plant located about 71 river miles downstream.

- IN SUMMARY:

Proponents seek a thumbs up recommendation from WTWG for:

- 1) the additional point of diversion (the BID pump plant) for each of the six US/Sunnyside Division water rights (6 change applications filed and reports of examination completed by Ecology staff); and
- 2) the instream flow enhancement trust water rights associated with this project (6 trust water right applications will be filed with Ecology soon).

WTWG Project form

### Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project - Conservation

