

California Environmental Protection Agency

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>

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION
FOR PETITIONS

Permit 16040 (Application 22061)

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 1

See Attachment No. 1

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2. COUNTY PERMITS

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

Person contacted: N/A Date of contact: _____
 Department: Public Works Telephone: (530) 538-7681
 County Zoning Designation: N/A

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): _____

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. 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) _____

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. _____

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. _____

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- d. Have you contacted the California Department of Fish and Game concerning your project? YES NO
If YES, name and telephone number of contact: _____

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: _____
- 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. 2

* 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
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: _____ Date of contact: _____
- c. What method of treatment and disposal will be used? _____

See Attachment No. _____

6. ARCHEOLOGY

- a. Have any archeological reports been prepared on this project? YES NO *
- b. Will you be preparing an archeological report to satisfy another public agency? YES NO *
- c. Do you know of any archeological or historic sites located within the general project area? YES NO *
- * The environmental document being prepared for this project addresses the issues associated with cultural resources.

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If YES, explain: _____

See Attachment No. _____

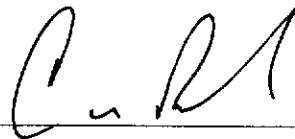
7. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

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: 12/21/07 Signature: 

Attachments to Environmental Information Form

Paradise Irrigation District

Permit 271 (Application 476)
Permit 16040 (Application 22061)

Attachment No. 1

1. Description of Proposed Changes or Work Remaining to be Completed

Paradise Irrigation District (PID) is filing Petitions to add direct diversion as a method of diversion, add hydropower as a purpose of use, change the place of use, and allow additional time in which to put water to full beneficial use under its Permits 271 and 16040.

Currently, Permit 271 authorizes diversion to storage in the Paradise Reservoir and Magalia Reservoir, and Permit 16040 authorizes diversion to storage in Paradise Reservoir. Paradise and Magalia Reservoirs are both located on Little Butte Creek and the water is commingled for service of the place of use. Permit 271 allows for the diversion of water from January 1 through December 31, and Permit 16040 allows for the diversion of water from October 1 through May 31. Neither Permit provides for the right to take water by direct diversion, which the Permittee believes was an oversight in the original filings.

Adding Direct Diversion as a method of diversion under Permits 271 and 16040 will increase PID's operational flexibility and will conform the water right Permits to historical and current operating conditions. PID has no intent to divert more water annually from the Little Butte Creek system than what is allowed under its Permits as a result of adding 'direct diversion' to its Permits. The Petitions seek to add a combined direct diversion rate of 18 cubic feet per second under the Permits. The change in method of diversion does not require the construction of any new facilities.

The Petitions also seek to add hydropower as a purpose of use. The District is considering the installation of a small hydropower plant on the outlet conduit from Paradise Dam. The plant would operate based on scheduled releases for beneficial use as well as any flood flow releases from Paradise Reservoir. There would be no change to the release schedule or in the amount of water beneficially used as a result of the installation of the plant. The generating capacity of the proposed plant would be less than 1 megawatt.

PID has also filed Petitions to seek a change in the place of use for Permits 271 and 16040. The lands to be added include the service areas of Paradise Pines, Old Magalia and Lime Saddle districts of the Del Oro Water Company which border the current PID place of use. Presently, Del Oro Water Company receives water from Stirling Bluffs which is treated and delivered to the Del Oro service areas by PID. PID is in negotiation with Del Oro Water Company to execute a water exchange agreement or a purchase agreement for the Old Magalia and Lime Saddle districts. The change in PID's place of use is required as the purchased or exchanged water

served to Paradise Pines, Old Magalia and Lime Saddle districts is commingled with water diverted under PID's Permits 271 and 16040. The change also seeks to include other lands that are within the Town of Paradise's sphere of influence that are located outside, but adjacent to, PID's current place of use.

Petitions for Extension of Time are also being filed on Permits 271 and 16040, which expire on December 31, 2007. PID is requesting an additional 25 years in which to put the water to full beneficial use. Additional time is required to fully develop the amount of water allowed under the Permits to meet the projected municipal demand of 9,964 acre-feet by the year 2030. The addition of direct diversion and the Magalia Raw Water Bypass project, together with the proposed increase in storage of Paradise Reservoir and restoration of the full usable capacity of Magalia Reservoir, will allow PID to increase its firm yield and will help PID to meet its demands over consecutive dry years.

Attachment No. 2

4. Environmental Documents

A Draft Environmental Impact Report is being prepared by Paradise Irrigation District in support of these Petitions and will be submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board upon completion.