

STATE OF NEBRASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

ORDER GRANTING PETITION VAR-3489 FOR LEAVE TO FILE OR CONSIDER  
AN APPLICATION FOR A NEW SURFACE WATER APPROPRIATION WITHIN  
A MORATORIUM OR STAY AREA

WATER DIVISION 1-B

BACKGROUND

1. On July 14, 2004, the Department of Natural Resources (Department) issued an Order declaring a formal moratorium in the Republican River Basin on the issuance of all new surface water appropriations.
2. On January 28, 2013, Clyde Lueking (Petitioner), on behalf of Bonnie Percival and Augusta Percival Dietz, filed petition VAR-3489 in the Department for Leave to File or Consider an Application for a New Surface Water Appropriation within a Moratorium Area (Petition). The draft application and documentation attached to the petition is for a permit to impound water in the existing Lueking Reservoir from a tributary to the Republican River located in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 25, Township 3 North, Range 21 West of the 6<sup>th</sup> P.M. in Furnas County for the purpose of water for livestock.
3. Department records of aerial photography dating back to 1993 for this location show this dam and reservoir in existence and impounding water.
4. *Nebraska Revised Statutes* § 46-714(3)(n) allows for new surface water appropriations if the Department grants leave to file an application and subsequently approves a permit for such use.
5. When filing such a petition, a project proponent must offer a clearly stated basis for such request and must offer sufficient good cause shown. *Department of Natural Resources Rules for Surface Water, Title 457 Neb. Admin. Code Chapter 23* lists six circumstances that may be put forward as justification for granting a petition to apply for a permit to impound water, in conjunction with an examination of good cause shown.

CONCLUSIONS

1. Petitioner has shown good cause in that the impoundment has been providing the benefit of water for livestock for many years.
2. The Lueking Reservoir existed prior to the formal moratorium.
3. Therefore, petition VAR-3489 should be granted and the Petitioner should be allowed to file an application for a permit to impound water.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Petition VAR-3489 meets the requirement of *Department of Natural Resources Rules of Surface Water, Title 457 Neb. Admin. Code Chapter 23, 001.04*, and is GRANTED.
2. This decision shall not bind the Director to approve any application to which it relates, or in any way be used as evidence of prejudice for the Director's future decisions concerning the specific approval requirements of such an application.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

June 18, 2013

  
Brian P. Dunnigan, P.E., Director

A copy of this Order was posted on the Department's website. A copy of this Order was provided to the Department's field office in Cambridge, Nebraska. A copy of this Order was mailed on June 18, 2013, to the following:

Bonnie Percival  
43652 Road 718  
Oxford, Nebraska 68967

Augusta Percival Dietz  
11334 709 Road  
Alma, Nebraska 68920

Clyde Lueking  
2105 Spalding  
Holdrege, Nebraska 68949