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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF APACHE

IN RE THE GENERAL ADJUDICATION OF ALL RIGHTS TO USE WATER IN THE LITTLE COLORADO RIVER SYSTEM AND SOURCE

CASE NO. CV 6417-33-5678

ORDER INITIATING WATER RIGHTS CASE AND SETTING A DATE FOR AN INITIAL CONFERENCE

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CONTESTED CASE NAME: In re Louis A. Petersen

HSR INVOLVED: Silver Creek Hydrographic Survey

DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY: The Clerk of Apache County is directed to initiate Case CV6417-033-5678. Status conference set for **January 11, 2024, at 10:30am.**

NUMBER OF PAGES: 15

General Explanation

This order opens a case to determine rights to use water on land that the Navajo County Assessor has identified as owned by CJM Ranch Properties, Raymond and Laura Shumway, and Raymond and Carolyn Speakman. The first step in this case is an initial conference with the Court, scheduled for January 11, 2024, at 10:30am. to determine if landowners are interested in pursuing potential water rights. Interested Parties MUST attend the scheduled initial conference if they plan to pursue potential water rights. Failure to appear at the initial conference could result in the dismissal of the case and the loss of water rights associated with the property.

In this case, Louis A. and Lorene K. Petersen filed Statements of Claimant ("SOCs") 39-88650, 39-88651, and 39-88652 on October 2, 1985, to assert claims to use water on land that appears to include Navajo County tax parcels 409-13-001L, 409-13-004C, 409-13-004B, and 409-13-005. These parcels are currently owned by CJM Ranch Properties, Raymond and Laura Shumway, and Raymond and Carolyn Speakman.

The first step in this case will be an initial conference to determine: 1) whether current landowners intend to pursue rights to water and 2) the parcels of land that ADWR investigated in creating the WFR for this case. At the conference, current landowners must be prepared to state whether they intend to pursue water rights.

Additional background information on the process for determining water rights in Arizona can be found on Attachment A

Details of the Case

On October 2, 1985, Louis A. and Lorene K. Petersen filed three Statements of Claimant ("SOCs") with the following claims:

SOC Number	Quantity	Water Source	Water Use	Use Location
39-88650	0.81 acre-feet per year	Surface Water	Irrigation, Domestic, Recreation	SW16 T10N R20E
39-88651	0.038 acre-foot impoundment	Surface Water	Stockpond, Irrigation, Domestic, Recreation	SW16 T10N R20E
39-88652	3.87 acre-feet per year	Surface Water	Irrigation, Domestic, Recreation	SW16 T10N R20E

The Arizona Department of Water Resources ("ADWR") investigated the claims made by Louis A. and Lorene K. Petersen ("Claimants") and prepared Watershed File Report No. 33-50-DDC-001 ("WFR"), published in the Final Silver Creek Watershed Hydrographic Survey Report (1991) ("Silver Creek HSR"). The WFR recorded that surface water was being used for domestic, irrigation, stockpond, and small reservoir purposes within the area noted in the SOCs. A copy of

the WFR is attached as Attachment B. A map that includes the area of land that was investigated for the WFR, labeled as "(1)", is attached as Attachment C.

After ADWR issued the WFR, objections were filed to the findings made in the WFR by the United States, the Salt River Project, the Navajo Nation, the Hopi Tribe, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe. The purpose of this case is to consider the claims made for water rights in SOCs 39-88650, 39-88651, and 39-88652 and to resolve the objections to the WFR.

Claimant and Landowners

The WFR lists Louis A. Peterson as the owner of the land investigated by ADWR. According to maps obtained from the Navajo County Assessor ("Assessor"), the land investigated appears to comprise tax parcels 409-13-001L, 409-13-004C, 409-13-004B, and 409-13-005.

Documents obtained from the Navajo County Recorder indicate that parcels 409-13-001L, 409-13-004B, and 409-13-005 belonged to Louis Peterson at the time of ADWR's investigation, but do not identify the owners of 409-13-004C at that time. As a result, at the initial conference, the Court orders that ADWR confirm whether that parcel was investigated during the creation of the WFR. Attachment D contains a description for each parcel of the relevant documents obtained from the Navajo County Recorder.

The public records of the Arizona Department of Water Resources do not contain any assignments of the SOCs listed in the WFR, and more recent SOCs do not appear to have been filed with respect to the land at issue. A copy of the map prepared by the Assessor showing the relevant tax parcels is attached as Attachment E.

In order obtain water rights, the property owners must file Statements of Claimant and present to the Court evidence, which may include the WFR, showing the existence of water rights. Alternatively, the property owners may settle with objectors. If either the property owners prove to the Court the existence of water rights on their properties or enter into a valid settlement, the court will recognize enforceable water rights in a "Final Decree." Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 45-257(B).

This is an order from the court and all parties must comply with the following instructions.

The failure to obey this, or any, court order may result in the dismissal of this case and the loss of

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any potential water rights associated with the property mentioned in this order. If you have questions regarding this Order or any of the attachments, please contact the General Stream Adjudication, Office of the Special Water Master, at (602) 372-4115. Please note that staff can only answer administrative questions and cannot provide legal advice.

IT IS ORDERED:

- Case Initiation. This contested case shall be known as In re Louis A. Peterson, and it
 will determine claims to appropriable water asserted in Statements of Claimant 3988650, 39-88651, and 39-88652 and resolve any objections that were filed to
 Watershed File Report No. 33-50-DDC-001.
- 2. <u>Initial Conference</u>. An initial conference shall be held on January 11, 2024, at 10:00 am. to determine whether 1) current landowners intend to pursue claims for water rights and 2) whether ADWR investigated tax parcel 409-13-004C in its compilation of WFR No. 33-50-DDC-001. The conference will be held using the Court Connect program. Instructions for Court Connect are attached as Attachment A. If you receive this Order by email, click on the red box "Join Court Connect Hearing" on the attached instructions to make an appearance. If you do not receive this Order by email, log into the Court Connect program the internet on by typing https://tinyurl.com/specialwatermaster. If you do not have access to the internet, you may attend telephonically using the telephone number and access code included in the instructions for Court Connect.
- Arizona Department of Water Resources. At the initial conference, ADWR will
 clarify whether any portion of tax parcels 409-13-004C were investigated for the
 purpose of creating WFR 33-50-DDC-001.
- 4. Parties. The litigants in this contested case are the Claimant, the current landowners, and all persons who filed objections to the Watershed File Report. The objectors in this case are the Salt River Project, the United States, the Hopi Tribe, the Navajo Nation, and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe.

5. Objections: Copies of objections filed to WFR No. 33-50-DDC-001 can be found under the case number CV 6417-033-5678 on the following website: http://www.superiorcourt.maricopa.gov/SuperiorCourt/GeneralStreamAdjudication/whatsNew.asp.

6. Court-Approved Mailing List.

- A. The initial Court-approved mailing list for this case shall include all persons listed on Attachment F to this order. The list may be modified only by filing a motion with the Special Master to amend the Court-approved mailing list. Litigants are responsible for using the current Court-approved mailing list.
- B. A copy of any pleading filed with the Clerk of the Apache County Superior Court in this case shall be served upon each person listed on the Court-approved mailing list.
- C. Claimants wishing to be added or removed from the mailing list shall file a motion with the Special Master. Parties allowed to intervene will be automatically added to the Court-approved mailing list.
- D. The Clerk of the Court will send copies of all minute entries and orders issued in this case to the parties listed on the Court-approved mailing list.
- E. Claimants who would like to receive courtesy copies of minute entries and orders may request inclusion on an email list by sending a request to emily.natale@jbazmc.maricopa.gov.

Sherri L. Zendri

Special Water Master

On <u>Received T2023</u> the original of the foregoing was delivered to the Clerk of the Apache County Superior Court for filing and distributing a copy to all persons listed on the Courtapproved mailing list for this contested case, a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment F.

Emily Natale

ATTACHMENT A

General Background on the Water Rights Determination Process in Arizona

A general stream adjudication is a judicial proceeding to determine the quantity and priority of all water rights in a river system. Arizona is undertaking general stream adjudications of both the Gila River and the Little Colorado River systems. A river system includes surface water flowing "in streams or other natural channels", groundwater sufficiently connected to that surface water, and water subject to claims by the federal government. Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 45-251(7). Recognizing and respecting water rights and the priority of such rights is important in Arizona where times of drought or water scarcity can occur.

All cases begin with the filing of a "Statement of Claimant," ("SOC") in which a property owner makes a claim for a right to use surface water on their property. Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 45-254(A). This person is the "claimant." The SOCs contain, among other characteristics, a description of the source and quantity of the water used, the location of use, the location from which the water was diverted, and the date when the water was first put to use. *Id.* § 45-254(C).

After the property owner files the SOCs, the Arizona Department of Water Resources ("ADWR") prepares a "Watershed File Report," ("WFR") in which ADWR investigates the claims in the SOCs and recommends water rights associated with the property. *Id.* § 45-256(B). ADWR compiles all WFRs for a watershed into a comprehensive Hydrographic Survey Report ("HSR") and publishes the report for public review and comment. In response, other claimants in the Adjudication may file "objections" disputing the information or recommendations in the WFR. The individuals who file objections are called "objectors."

This "contested case", one of thousands in the Little Colorado River System, will evaluate claims asserted in specific Statements of Claimant while considering objections to the WFR that reported ADWR's initial inspection of those claims.

ATTACHMENT B

Watershed File Report

PETERSEN. A POLYC LAND OWNER

PETERSEN, A. LOUIS

033-50-DDC-001

APPLICABLE FILINGS AND DECREES

CLEARLY STATED INFORMATION FROM FILINGS AND DECREES

FILING NUMBER	FILING STATUS	USES	QUANTITY IN AFA	USE LO	CATION TWNP R		CLAIM DATE	DIVERSION SECTION	N LOCA	
10-0091168		IRRIGATION OTHER STOCKWATERING DOMESTIC		17 20		200E	< 1904			
36-0037876		IRRIGATION DOMESTIC STOCKWATERING	. 66				1897	SWSW16	100N	200E
36-0037877		IRRIGATION STOCKWATERING	1.23				1897	SWSW16	100N	200E
39-0088650		DOMESTIC IRRIGATION	.81	NWSWSW16	100N 2	200E	1900	NWSWSW16	100N	200E
39-0088651		STOCKPOND	.03	~			1983	SWSWSW16	100N	200E
39-0088652		IRRIGATION STOCKPOND REC/FISH/WLDLF	3.87 .10 4.68	NWSWSW16	100N 2	200E	1900	NWSWSW16	100N	200E

DWR ANALYSIS OF FILINGS AND DECREES

FILING NUMBER	USES CLAIMED OR REFERENCED	USES FOUND BY DWR	APPLIES TO DIVERSIONS	APPLIES TO PWR NUMBERS
10-0091168	IRRIGATION DOMESTIC STOCKWATERING OTHER	IRRIGATION DOMESTIC INCIDENTAL INCIDENTAL	SO1,SO2	IRO01,DM001
36-0037876	IRRIGATION DOMESTIC STOCKWATERING	IRRIGATION DOMESTIC INCIDENTAL	SO1	0T001, DM001
36-0037877	IRRIGATION DOMESTIC STOCKWATERING	IRRIGATION DOMESTIC INCIDENTAL	\$O2	DT001
39-0088650	IRRIGATION DOMESTIC STOCKWATERING REC/FISH/WLDLF	IRRIGATION DOMESTIC INCIDENTAL INCIDENTAL	S01,P01	OTOO1,DMOO1.SROO1
39-0088651	IRRIGATION DDMESTIC STOCKWATERING REC/FISH/WLDLF	IRRIGATION DOMESTIC INCIDENTAL INCIDENTAL	S01,S02,P01	SROO1,0T001,DM001
39-0088652	IRRIGATION DOMESTIC STOCKWATERING REC/FISH/WLDLF	IRRIGATION NONE INCIDENTAL INCIDENTAL	\$02	0T001, SR001

DIVERSIONS

	LDCATION	DRAINAGE AREA/		•
DIV #	SECTION TWNP RNGE	WATER SOURCE NAME	DIVERSION NAME	REMARKS
PO1	NWSWSW16 100N 200E	COTTONWOOD WASH	UNNAMED	
SO1	NWSWSW16 100N 200E	COTTONWOOD WASH	UPPER PETERSEN SPR.	
SO2	NWSWSW16 100N 200E	COTTONWOOD WASH	LOWER PETERSEN SPR.	

USES

			NOITA			WATER	PHOTO	SDURCE		
					DIVERSIONS	SDURCE	DATE		FACILITY NAME	
		CHEMENA				CUREAGE				
DMO(SWSWSW16				SURFACE		NO		
OTO	J 1	2M2M16	100N	200E	S01,S02,P01	SURFACE	1935	NO		

FILE 033-50-DDC-001 (CONTINUED) RESERVDIRS

CONTINUATION OF PAGE: 95

	LOCATION	SUPPLIED BY	WATER	PHOTO		
PWR #	SECTION TWNP R	NGE DIVERSIONS	SOURCE	DATE	RESERVOIR NAME	STORAGE PURPOSE
			~~~~~~			
SP001	NWSWSW16 100N 20	OOE	SURFACE	1977	PETERSEN TANK	STOCKWATERING
SR001	SWSWSW16 100N 20	DOE S01,S02	SURFACE	1986	SMALL POND	IRRIGATION
						STOCKWATERING
						RECREATION
						WILDLIEE

#### PWR SUMMARY

PWR #	APPLICABLE ADJ FILINGS	APPLICABLE PRE FILINGS	** APP	ARENT FIRST USE ** DATA SOURCE	DRAINAGE AREA/ WATER SOURCE NAME
DMOO 1	39-0088650 39-0088651	10-0091168 36-0037876		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	COTTONWOOD WASH
DT001	39-0088650 39-0088651 39-0088652	10-0091168 36-0037876 36-0037877	1897	36-37876 & 36-37877	COTTONWOOD WASH
SP001 SR001	NONE 39-0088650 39-0088651 39-0088652	NDNE 10-0091168 36-0037876 36-0037877	1977 1986	1977 AERIAL PHOTO 1986 AERIAL PHOTO	COTTONWOOD WASH

#### QUANTITIES OF USE

PWR #	QUANTIFICATION TYPE	APPLICABLE ACREAGE/SURFACE AREA (ACRES)	WATER DUTY	ESTIMATED VOLUME	REMARKS
DM001 0T001 SP001 SR001	AVG. EFFICIENT MAX. AREA/CAP MAX. AREA/CAP	.7 < 2.0 < 2.0	5.5 AF/AC	3.8 AFA < OR = 15.0 AF < OR = 15.0 AF	SEE VOLUME 1

#### EXPLANATION

#### FILINGS AND DECREES

FILING 10-09-1-168 IS A NOTICE OF WATER APPROPRIATION FILED BY JAMES PETERSON ON JULY 5. 1904 IN NAVAJO COUNTY CLAIMING THE WATERS OF MORTENSEN WASH FOR IRRIGATION, DOMESTIC, STOCK AND OTHER BENEFICIAL PURPOSES.

#### DIVERSIONS

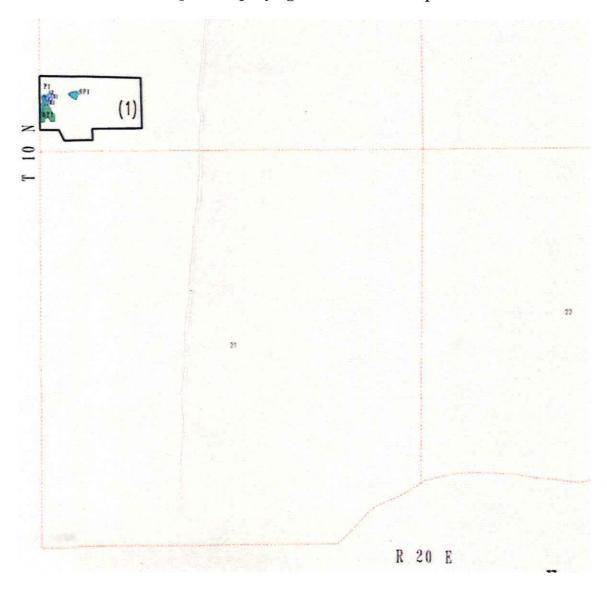
- P1 PORTABLE PUMP DIVERTS WATER FROM SMALL RESERVOIR SR1 FOR IRRIGATION USE.
- S1 SPRING SUPPLIES WATER FOR DOMESTIC USE AND IRRIGATION STORAGE IN SMALL RESERVOIR SR1. S2 SPRING SUPPLIES WATER FOR IRRIGATION STORAGE IN SMALL RESERVOIR SR1.

#### USES AND RESERVOIRS

- DT1 IRRIGATION OF ORCHARD AND GARDEN TOTALING LESS THAN TWO ACRES ASSOCIATED WITH A DOMESTIC USE.
- SP1 & SR1 STOCKPOND AND SMALL RESERVOIR LOCATED ON AN UNNAMED TRIBUTARIES TO BEAR CANYON. ALL SURFACE WATER SOURCES AND USES ARE LOCATED WITHIN THE COTTONWOOD WASH DRAINAGE AREA!

## ATTACHMENT C

## Map Accompanying Watershed File Report



## ATTACHMENT D

## **Descriptions of Relevant Recorder Documents**

## Parcel 409-13-001L

Document No.	Transferor	Transferee
1995-13247	Louis and Lorene	Eugene and Mary Webb
	Peterson	

## 409-13-004B

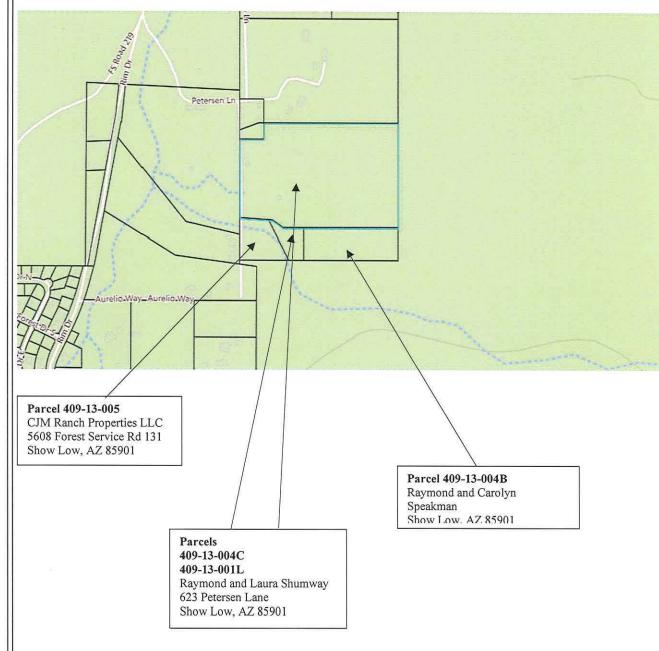
Document No.	Transferor	Transferee
1992-10350	Louis and Lorene	Herbert and Ina
	Peterson	Hancock

## 409-13-005

Document No.	Transferor	Transferee
1992-10351	Louis and Lorene	Clara McMullin
	Peterson	

## **ATTACHMENT E**

## Map Obtained from Navajo County Assessor



### ATTACHMENT F

1 **Initial Court-Approved Mailing List** 2 Arizona Department of Water 3 Resources Navajo Nation Department of Justice Kimberly R. Parks and Karen J. Nielsen Ethel Branch & G. Michelle Brown-4 1110 West Washington, Suite 310 Yazzie. Phoenix, AZ 85007 PO Drawer 2010 Window Rock, AZ 86515 6 Clerk of the Superior Court Apache County Navajo Nation P. O. Box 365 Evan Hiller, Candace French, Jeffrey St Johns, AZ 85936 8 Leonard, Judith Dworkin and Kathryn Hoover 9 Special Master Sherri L. Zendri SACKS TIERNEY P.A. Superior Court of Arizona 4250 N. Drinkwater Blvd., 4th Floor 10 201 W. Jefferson Street Scottsdale, AZ 85251 11 Courtroom 301 Phoenix, AZ 85003 U.S. Department of Justice 12 Vanessa Boyd Willard 999 18th Street, Suite 370 13 Louis A. and Lorene K. Petersen P.O. Box 19 Denver, CO 80202 14 Pinedale, AZ 85934 US Dept of Justice – ENRD 15 CJM Ranch Properties LLC Mark J. Widerschein 16 1439 E Mission Ln. Maggie Woodward Phoenix, AZ 85020-2743 Natural Resources Section 17 PO Box 7611 Washington, DC 20044 18 Raymond and Laura Shumway 895 S. Main St. Hopi Tribe 19 General Counsel of the Hopi Tribe Snowflake, AZ 85937-5578 20 P. O. Box 123 Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039 21 Raymond and Carolyn Speakman, Trustees C. Campbell, P. Londen, P. Bowden 22 1055 E 9th Dr. OSBORN MALEDON, P.S. 23 Mesa, AZ 85204-4215 2929 North Central Avenue, Ste 2100 Phoenix, AZ 85012 24 Salt River Project J.B. Weldon, M.A. McGinnis, M.K. 25 San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe Foy J. Kolsrud, I. Fimbres-Ruiz, K. Shaffer 26 Salmon, Lewis, and Weldon May, Potenza, Baran & Gillespie, PC 2850 E. Camelback Rd. Suite 200 1850 N. Central Avenue, Ste 1600 27 Phoenix, AZ 85016. Phoenix, AZ 85004-4633 28

### ATTACHMENT G



## **Court Connect Hearing Notice for In re Louis A. Petersen**

This hearing will be conducted through the new Court Connect program offered by the Superior Court of Arizona in Maricopa County. This new and innovative program allows Court participants to appear online, rather than in a physical courtroom. Hearings are preferably conducted by videoconference but can also be conducted by phone. Lawyers (and selfrepresenting litigants) are responsible for distributing this notice to anyone who will be appearing on their behalf.

All participants must use the JOIN COURT CONNECT HEARING button or the dial in information below to participate.

**Participants:** Please follow the steps below to participate in the remote proceeding.

- 1. Click the JOIN COURT CONNECT HEARING button below.
- 2. Enter your full name and role in name field.
- 3. Wait for the facilitator to admit you to the proceeding.

Remember to keep this email handy so you can use it to participate in the following proceeding.

Case Name: In re Louis A. Petersen, Contested Case No. CV6417-33-5678 Start Date/Time: January 11, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.

### JOIN COURT CONNECT HEARING

**Dial-in Information:** +1 917-781-4590

Private Dial-in Information: for privacy purposes, you can block your phone number by dialing *67 +1 917-781-4590

**Dial-in Access Code:** 688 970 203#

25 Tiny URL: https://tinyurl.com/specialwatermaster

To ensure an optimal experience, please review the brief Court Connect training prior to the hearing: Here

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