

**Conversion of Base Irrigation Groundwater Application Summary  
Conversion Based on Change in Land Use or No Longer Practicable to Farm  
Steve Cargil**

**Permit Number:** P101-687 (UV00436)  
**Purpose of Use:** Irrigation  
**Place of Use:** Uvalde County  
**Original Permitted Amount:** 1227.800 acre-feet  
**Irrigation Base Amount:** 613.900 acre-feet  
**Irrigation Unrestricted Amount:** 613.900 acre-feet  
**Date Board Issued Regular Permit:** March 15, 2001

**Number of acre-feet applicant originally requested to be converted from base irrigation to unrestricted irrigation groundwater:**

345.633

**Number of acre-feet staff recommends to be converted from base irrigation to unrestricted irrigation groundwater:**

345.633 (291.231 acre-feet unconditionally and  
54.402 acre-feet conditionally)

**Place of Use for Permit:**

627.402 acres containing 613.900 acres of Historically Irrigated Land (HIL)

The tract(s) of land more fully described in Special Warranty Deed dated 1/29/2007 as recorded with Clerk as Document # 2007000587, Official Public Records, Uvalde County, Texas.

**Current Physical Description of Place of Use:**

Mr. Steve Cargil owns approximately 627.402 acres containing 613.9 acres of Historically Irrigated Land (HIL) located west of Railroad 1049, south of Knippa, in Uvalde County Texas.

**Description of Change in Land Use:**

On May 22, 2024, EAA staff conducted a site visit and determined that the location of the HIL is presently under development. Exhibit A is a map representing the HIL subject to this application. Staff observed that 528.550 acres of HIL are currently in utilization as a commercial solar farm, as evidenced by the presence of solar panels, solar farm perimeter fencing, power lines, and improved access roads. Additionally, 174.090 acres of the 528.550 acres HIL are designated as flood plain. (Exhibits B, C, D, E, F, G).

**Staff Calculations:**

In accordance with Section 1.34 of the EAA Act and Sections 711.342(c)(6)(A) and (B) of the EAA rules, the 528.550 acres containing 291.231-acre feet of BIG are sufficiently developed and located within a flood plain to satisfy EAA requirements. EAA staff calculates the amount of BIG eligible for conversion at 291.231 acre-feet. Additionally, the remaining 98.852 HIL, with 54.402 AF of BIG conditionally meets the requirements of EAA rules Sections 711.342(c)(6)(B) whereby the development, which has taken place on the farm, prohibits the owner from applying pesticides and performing farming activities without threat to human health or damage to structures. The land has, however, been irrigated within the last five years. Therefore, the permit associated with the 54.402 AF of BIG being conditionally approved, cannot be issued with the 54.402 AF being converted to UIG until the five-year timeframe of non-irrigation has been completed. This time period of non-irrigation is certain to occur due to the terms of the agreement associated with the development of the commercial solar farm.

**Staff Recommendation:**

EAA staff recommends approval of the Application to convert Base Irrigation Groundwater, converting 291.231 acre-feet due to HIL that's been developed and is located within a flood plain. Additionally, staff recommends conditional approval for the remaining 54.402 acre-feet due to the land no longer being practicable to farm.