Conversion of Base Irrigation Groundwater Application Summary Conversion Based on Change in Land Use Schertz 312, LLC

Permit Number:	P100-705 (CO00118)		
Purpose of Use:	Irrigation		
Place of Use:	Comal County		
Original Permitted Amount:	213.500 acre-feet		
Irrigation Base Amount:	117.000 acre-feet		
Irrigation Unrestricted Amount:	96.500 acre-feet		
Date Board Issued Original RP:	March 13, 2001		

EAA WELL NO.	LOCATION	MEASURING METHOD	WITHDRAWAL RATE
W100-743	29-36.00-58.30 /	Meter	PLUGGED
(CO00118-001)	98-18.00-8.90		FLUGGED

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

117.000 acre-feet

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

117.000 acre-feet

Place(s) of Use for Permit:

142.096 acres and 83.526 acres

The tract(s) of land more fully described in Special Warranty Deed dated 6/21/2018 as recorded with Clerk as Document # 201806024955, Official Public Records, Comal County, Texas; and the tract(s) of land more fully described in Special Warranty Deed dated 6/21/2018 as recorded with Clerk as Document # 201806024987, Official Public Records, Comal County, Texas.

Current Physical Description of Place of Use:

The original IRP was granted due to the historical irrigation of 117 acres (owned and sold), located in southwest Comal County, to The Scheel Revocable Trust; Wilbur E. Friesenhahn and wife, Bernice Friesenhahn; and Clarence A. Dolle and wife, Alice S. Dolle. In 2009, the place of use was amended due to an Irrevocable Designation of Historically Irrigated Lands Pertaining to Edwards Aquifer Groundwater Rights and the 117.000 acre-feet BIG were designated to 116.527 HIA (83.526 and 33.001 acre-tracts). On August 1, 2018, P100-705 was conveyed to Schertz 312, LLC.

Description of Change in Land Use:

The Applicant's supporting documentation maintains the properties which are the subject of the application are surrounded by industrial developments on three sides. Many of the buildings associated with the industrial developments have open area parking and/or outdoor operations that adjoin the subject properties. Based on these factors, the permit holder maintains it would be extremely difficult to undertake the aerial spraying of any chemicals on the properties. In addition, there is an active rail line that borders the northern side of the properties. There is a switching station nearby, so that trains often stop when they are adjacent to the properties. This fact can also be problematic for the purpose of applying chemicals. Rail companies are very sensitive to chemicals being applied to properties adjacent to their trains that have to come to stop for long periods of time. For these reasons, the permit holder assets that surrounding development substantially impairs any agricultural activities on the HIA.

Staff Calculations:

In accordance with EAA Rule § 711.342(6)(D) Basis for Granting Conversion Applications, the historically irrigated land that is the subject of the application is no longer practicable to farm: the historically irrigated land has not been irrigated for more than three years; due to surrounding development, continuing agricultural activities on the land have the potential to compromise the health and safety of a farm operator or the general public occupying or residing on the adjacent properties, and surrounding development substantially impairs any continued agricultural activities on the historically irrigate land. The well used to irrigate the historically irrigated land that is the subject of the application has been plugged.

Staff Recommendation:

EAA Staff recommends approval of the Application to Convert Base Irrigation Groundwater requesting to convert 117.000 acre-feet based on a change in land use. The application will be reviewed at the April 23, 2019 Permits/Enforcement Committee meeting and the May 14, 2019 Board Meeting.