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Tieton Water Users' Association

311 FEDERAL BUILDING

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NORTH YAKIMA, WASH., March 21, 1914

TO THE STOCKHOLDERS:

We are pleased to notify you that the Secretary of the Interior has by order and public notice dated this month, granted our requests for modification of the requirements regarding the payment of building charges accrued against Tieton lands. The Secretary's order provides as follows:

1. All entries and water right applications filed in the year 1914 for lands under the Tieton Unit shall be accompanied by the portions of installments for operation and maintenance which have accrued against the said lands and the first installment of the building charge, \$9.30 per irrigable acre, shall be due on April 1, 1914. The subsequent installments of the charges for building, and the appropriate charge for operation and maintenance shall be due on April 1 of each succeeding year until fully paid. The building charges shall be graduated as provided for in public notice heretofore issued for the said unit under date of March 21, 1913; provided, however, that no person shall be entitled to make payments in accordance with such schedule of graduated payments until he shall have reclaimed and cultivated at least 50 per centum of the total irrigable area covered by his application.

2. For entrymen and landowners who have heretofore made entries or filed water right applications which are still intact, no installment of the building charge shall become due in 1914, but the installment which under the provisions of the public notices and orders heretofore issued would have become due on April 1, 1914, shall be divided into two parts and added to the 9th and 10th installments respectively.

3. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the acceptance by any water user under the Tieton unit of the benefits of any legislation now pending before Congress and which may be hereafter enacted into law, affecting payments to be made on account of the water right charges.

You will note that the building charge for 1914 against all lands where application has already been made, has been suspended and will be added to the 9th and 10th payments.

Where water right applications on lands not now covered by applications SHALL BE FILED IN THE YEAR 1914, all the charges which have accrued against those lands on the construction charge will be suspended and such water right applicants will start with a clean slate so far as the construction charges are concerned, and will be required only to make a down-payment of \$4.50 or \$6.00 per

acre dependent on location, which is the accrued maintenance charges up to and including April 1, 1914; in other words, the owners of lands which have not heretofore made application for water can make application this year upon the down payment in the third unit of \$4.50, which is three years' maintenance and operation charges, while on the first and second units the owners would have to accompany their water right applications with \$6.00 per acre.

If cultivation during this year is shown, then the graduated payments will be allowed to these lands in subsequent years. In addition to this, the payment will be construed to have started with April 1, 1914, and under the present law ten years from that date will be granted to THOSE WHO MAKE APPLICATION THIS YEAR.

This is a very substantial reduction since otherwise new applicants would have to accompany their water right applications, if made on or after April 1, 1914, with \$23.10 as a down payment on the third unit and with \$33.90 if the lands are situated within the first and second units.

It will be noted that it is further provided that all persons under the Tieton will also be entitled to any advantages accruing from any new legislation.

We wish to call your attention to the fact that there is now pending (not yet passed) a bill providing for the extension of time of payment on all reclamation projects to twenty years instead of ten. It is proposed that the first of these payments shall become due on December 1st of the year in which the public notice fixing the charges is given, and shall be for the first four such installments two per centum of the total construction charge, the next two installments, four per centum, and the next fourteen each six per centum of the total construction charge, which charges are, of course, in addition to the usual operation and maintenance charge.

If this bill should pass, all parties making application will be entitled to the benefits of such legislation. It is also provided in said bill that for all lands in private ownership which do not make application for water right within a definite time after the passage of the Act, the construction charges for such lands shall be increased five per centum each year until application is made.

The Tieton Association therefore earnestly urges every owner of land not already covered by water right application to make water right application during the year 1914 and to proceed diligently with the cultivation and development of such land in order that the full benefits of this order may be realized.

Respectfully,

TIETON WATER USERS ASSOCIATION,

By R. H. Warnick,
Secretary.