

Department of Public Works & Utilities

September 20, 2018

David Barfield Chief Engineer Kansas Department of Agriculture Division of Water Resources 1320 Research Park Drive Manhattan, Kansas 66502

RE: City of Wichita ASR RRW Permit Applications 48704 - 48733

Dear Mr. Barfield:

The Hearing to consider proposed modifications to the Phase II of the City of Wichita's ASR project is scheduled for 12/3/18. The three primary issues to be considered as identified in the pre-hearing order are:

- 1. Should the new applications filed by the City to allow recovery of aquifer storage credits from existing production wells be approved?
- 2. Should the bottom of the basin storage area be lowered as proposed by the City of Wichita?
- 3. Should the applicable accounting procedures for Phase II of the Project be modified to allow the City to develop recharge credits via its Aquifer Maintenance proposal?

As discussed on 9/18 during the Wichita ASR Hearing on various motions, the GMD2 application review and recommendation process for the above referenced applications appears to have a potential significant impact on the process and schedule for the 12/3 Hearing to consider proposed modifications to the Phase II of the City of Wichita's ASR project. Additionally, the outcome of the hearing process regarding issues two and three will likely be foundational to the denial, approval and or subsequent conditioning of any applications recommended for approval by GMD2.

Following the initial review of the applications it was discussed by the GMD2 Board and staff that they would consider approval of the applications that met spacing requirements however conditions would be applied that would exclude the approved applications from the development

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of recharge credits via the AMC proposal and would be limited to the currently establish minimum index levels. The GMD2 board members and staff expressed significant concern and reluctance to consider the applications without the clarity that will be provided as a result of the hearing process and subsequent decisions related to issues two and three. We see no reason to believe that their level of confidence or position will change during the ongoing review and or appeal process.

Additionally, the City is undertaking the development of a 50-year maintenance plan for the wellfield and this plan might well affect the scope and/or nature of the new well applications referenced in item #1 above.

In order to streamline and promote greater efficiency within the process the City of Wichita respectfully requests that applications 48704 – 48733 be withdrawn and issue #1 considering whether the applications should be approved be extracted from the hearing process.

We truly believe that this action will facilitate the process and allow GMD2 to consider future ASR applications with greater clarity. Your time and consideration are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Alan King

Alan King
Director of Public Works & Utilities

cc: Joseph T. Pajor, Deputy Director of Public Works & Utilities

Brian McLeod, Deputy City Attorney

Brian Meier, Managing Associate, Burns & McDonnell

Office of the Director

City Hall • IEightlh Floor • 455 North Main • Wichita, Kansas 67202-1606