

In the Matter of Designation of
The Groundwater Management District No. 4 District-Wide
Local Enhanced Management Area (LEMA)
In Cheyenne, Gove, Graham, Logan, Rawlins, Sheridan,
Sherman, Thomas, and Wallace Counties in Kansas

Earl D. Lewis Jr., Chief Engineer
Hearing Officer, Colby, KS
July 27, 2022

In as much as I am unaware of a goal statement for GMD#4, I would assume that it might very generally be:

1. To sustain our water resources in GMD#4,
2. Administer the beneficial use of the water resources in this area for:
 - a. Crop production,
 - b. Meat, milk, and poultry production,
 - c. Provision for municipalities.

I would observe that water is seldom naturally pooled in a geometric square, rectangle, or circle. Consider the shorelines of any of our reservoirs:

- Keith Sebelius Reservoir,
- Webster Reservoir,
- Cedar Bluff Reservoir,
- Bonny Reservoir

It would seem logical that the many coves, inlets, and branches leading into these reservoirs would likely be the rule below the surface of the ground as well.

Why not use our annual water use reports and the data gathered by the Kansas Geological Survey in its annual well measurements to discover the coves, inlets, and branches of the Ogallala Aquifer in the GMD#4?

Using that data, we could then establish a LEMA that would more effectively accomplish our goals.

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