



April 26, 2018

EQUUS BEDS GROUNDWATER
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO. 2
Jeff Winter
Board President

RE: City of Wichita Water Rights and Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR)
Project

Dear Mr. Winter:

The City of Wichita is in receipt of your letter of April 6, 2018 regarding the City's water rights and the ASR project.

Both the GMD and the City see a clear need to protect and conserve the Equus Beds groundwater resources. It is also important to the City of Wichita that we operate our water utility to meet the water demands of our customers on an ongoing basis. As the City has shared with the GMD in the past, our current water rights in Cheney Reservoir and our native water rights in the Equus Beds are sufficient to meet that demand for the entirety of our fifty-year planning period with the exception of periods of severe prolonged drought.

The City's ASR project, as originally conceived, was intended to move water from wetter years to be consumed in dryer years. Today, the mission has transitioned to building recharge credits over the long term with concentrated use of the credits as they are recovered to supply water during a one-percent probability drought. This shift along with the recovery of the aquifer to very near predevelopment levels are the two principle reasons the City is seeking changes to our permit conditions.

WATER RESOURCES
RECEIVED

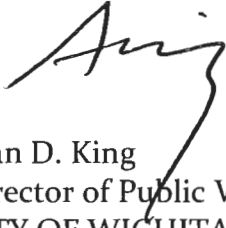
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In the short term, the benefits to the City and other water rights holders that the proposed permit modifications would produce are not available. Therefore, to produce ASR credits sooner rather than later the City, at least for now, must make space in the aquifer for physical recharge credits to be produced. This is not a change in strategy; this is a temporary change in tactics to make sure the City maximizes the value and use of its investment in ASR. In normal operating periods, the current strategy continues to take water from Cheney and compliment it with water from the aquifer.

The City is hopeful that the GMD will support these efforts to allow the best possible stewardship of the Equus Beds aquifer.



Alan D. King
Director of Public Works & Utilities
CITY OF WICHITA

ADK/JTP

- c: Jeff Longwell, City of Wichita Mayor
Brandon Johnson, City of Wichita Council Member
Pete Meitzner, City of Wichita Council Member
James Clendenin, City of Wichita Council Member
Jeff Blubaugh, City of Wichita Council Member
Bryan Frye, City of Wichita Council Member
Cindy Claycomb, City of Wichita Council Member
Robert Layton, City Manager, City of Wichita
David Barfield, Division of Water Resources
Lane Letourneau, Division of Water Resources
Tracy Streeter, Director, Kansas Water Office
Joseph Pajor, City of Wichita Public Works & Utilities
Brian Meier, Burns & McDonnell
Equus Beds, GMD2 Board of Directors
Tom Adrian, Equus Beds GMD2 Attorney