

EQUUS BEDS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO. 2

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**Equus Beds Groundwater Management District No. 2
Testimony Before the
Chief Engineer, Division of Water Resources, Kansas Department of Agriculture
Concerning the Burrton Intensive Groundwater Use Control Area
Tim Boese, Manager
October 4, 2016**

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Equus Beds Groundwater Management District No. 2 (District), I wish to thank the Chief Engineer for the opportunity to provide information regarding the Burrton Intensive Groundwater Use Control Area (IGUCA).

The Burrton IGUCA was established on June 1, 1984, by order of the Chief Engineer, Division of Water Resources. A subsequent Correctional Order was approved by the Chief Engineer on July 24, 1984. As background, on June 11, 1982, the Chief Engineer received from the District Board of Directors a request to initiate proceeding for the establishment of an IGUCA near Burrton, Kansas, due to deteriorating water quality caused by oilfield brine (saltwater) disposal practices. An initial public hearing on August 4, 1982 was held and then continued to allow the District to conduct additional research and for the creation of the Burrton Task Force. On February 21, 1984, the IGUCA hearing was reconvened by the Chief Engineer. Upon review of the information provided at the hearing, including the recommendations of the Burrton task Force, the Chief Engineer approved the establishment of the Burrton IGUCA.

The Burrton IGUCA has been instrumental in managing the groundwater and saltwater contamination in the area. Pursuant to the IGUCA order, each new water permit application is reviewed by the District on a case by case basis and to determine impacts to nearby senior domestic and non-domestic water rights and impacts to the saltwater contamination movement. Additionally, all new water permits issued after the effective date of the IGUCA are required to have water samples collected and analyzed twice annually, generally at the beginning and ending of the pumping season. These data, along with data collected from the extensive monitoring well network established and maintained by the District provides valuable information regarding saltwater contamination levels and movement.

The District assisted in the review and formation of the Burrton IGUCA review report. The District Board has reviewed and accepted the draft report. The District agrees with the report conclusion that the IGUCA is necessary to protect the public interest and with the recommendation that the Burrton IGUCA continues with the current corrective control provisions. Additionally, the District staff and Board of Directors will review and make recommendations regarding the the additional recommendations included in the report, including expansion of the IGUCA boundaries to the south and east.