

Dave Heineman DEPA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE OF NEBRASKA

Brian P. Dunnigan, P.E. Director

January 31, 2014

IN REPLY TO:

Aaron Thompson, Area Manager Great Plains Region Bureau of Reclamation 1706 West Third McCook, NE 69001

RE: Modification of Notice for Operation of Harlan County Lake in 2014

Dear Mr. Thompson:

I appreciate having the opportunity to discuss the terms of the Warren Act Contract No. 14WR630034 (Contract) developed between the Bureau of Reclamation (Bureau) and Kansas Bostwick Irrigation District (KBID) during our meeting on January 22, 2014. I am certainly interested in providing for greater flexibility in the management of water supplies during Compact Call Years.

The Department currently plans to issue a revised Storage Closing Notice to the Bureau authorizing the Bureau to temporarily retain water in Harlan County Lake in 2014 for delivery to KBID for irrigation purposes or later release for storage in Lovewell Reservoir or flow downstream into Kansas as necessary for Nebraska's Compact compliance requirements during 2014.

As discussed at our meeting, I understand from you that the Bureau and the Corps of Engineers (Corps) are in joint concurrence that the terms outlined in the Contract for 2014 will be followed and performed in a manner that will not interfere with Nebraska's Compact compliance objectives in 2014. If this understanding is not correct, please notify me immediately as the degree of flexibility that I can offer will likely need to be modified.

Once again, I appreciate recent discussions and hope to continue to work with the federal interests as well as KBID and the State of Kansas in implementing the terms of the Compact and Final Settlement Stipulation in the future.

Sincerely,

Brian P. Dunnigan, P.E.

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Director

cc: Mike Ryan, P.E., Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation Col. Andrew D. Sexton, U.S. Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District David Barfield, P.E., Kansas State Engineer