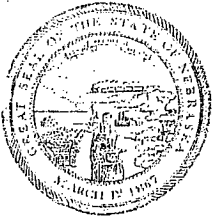


STATE OF NEBRASKA



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Roger K. Patterson
Director

November 3, 2004

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Mike Johanns
Governor

RECEIVED
NOV 05 2004

Middle Republican Natural Resources District
Gayle Haag, Chair
220 Center Street
P.O. Box 81
Curtis, NE 69025

Dear Mr. Haag,

Attached is the official forecast of the 2005 Harlan County Lake water supply.

The projected irrigation supply is less than 119,000 acre-feet. Under terms of the Final Settlement Stipulation, beginning in 2006, a forecast of less than 119,000 acre-feet will trigger "Water-Short Year Administration".

Water-Short Year Administration requires that Nebraska limit its Computed Beneficial Consumptive Use above Guide Rock to not more than the portion of our Allocation that is derived from sources above Guide Rock. This determination will be made on a 2 year running average. 2005 will be year 1 of the 2-year average. As you know, 2005 is also year 3 of our 5 year running average for purposes of normal compliance calculations.

If it remains dry it will be critically important to control our water use in 2005 to avoid the need for significant cutbacks in 2006. Therefore, rules need to be in place within each NRD for 2005 that will allow Nebraska to remain in compliance with the Republican River Compact.

I appreciate the considerable effort you collectively are putting into the development of Integrated Management Plans and associated rules and regulations. Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Roger K. Patterson.

Roger K. Patterson
Director

Enclosure

cc: Upper Republican NRD
Lower Republican NRD
Tri-Basin NRD
Dave Cookson



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Great Plains Region
Nebraska-Kansas Area Office
P.O. Box 1607
Grand Island, Nebraska 68802-1607

IN REPLY REFER TO:
NK-100
RES-3.10

OCT 22 2004

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NOV 05 2004

Mr. Roger Patterson
Director, Nebraska Department of
Natural Resources
PO Box 94676
Lincoln, NE 68509-4676

Mr. David Pope
Chief Engineer, Division of Water Resources
Kansas Department of Agriculture
901 South Kansas Avenue, 2nd Floor
Topeka, KS 66612-1283

Mr. Hal Simpson
State Engineer, State of Colorado
Division of Water Resources
1313 Sherman Street, Room 818
Denver, CO 80203-2277

Subject: 2005 Harlan County Lake (HCL) Water Supply Calculation

Dear Sirs:

As identified in the Final Settlement Stipulation, the Bureau of Reclamation computed the projected irrigation supply from HCL for the 2005 irrigation season to be 15,700 acre-feet (AF) using the storage available on September 30, 2004. This would indicate "Water-Short Year Administration" would be in effect with the irrigation supply being less than 119,000 AF.

If you have any questions, please contact Marv Swanda at 308-345-4400.

Sincerely,

Alice E. Johns
Area Manager

cc: Chief Hydrologic Engineering Branch, 601 East 12th Street, Kansas City, KS 64106
GP-4500 (Gordon Aycock)

RECEIVED
OCT 25 2004
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

MIDDLE REPUBLICAN NRD
GROUNDWATER MONITORING PROGRAM

Summary Comparison of wells Fall 2003 to Fall 2004

	FRONTIER	HAYES	HITCHCOCK	LINCOLN	RED WILLOW	NRD
No. Wells lower than <u>Fall 2004</u>	17	9	5	11	11	53
No. Wells higher than <u>Fall 2004</u>	14	12	17	11	12	66
No. Wells not changed from <u>Fall 2004</u>	0	0	3	0	2	5
No. Well <u>not</u> measured	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total No. of Wells in Monitoring Program	31	21	25	22	25	124
Greatest decline in 1 well	-2.21	-2.21	-1.21	-1.57	-1.77	-2.21
Greatest rise in 1 well	3.27	2.19	3.7	9.33	11.62	11.62
Average water level change F Fall 2004	0.224194	0.147619	0.6204	1.428182	0.9004	0.6410484
Average Annual Decline Since 1974						-0.1973333

Permit to Construct
Summary
November 9, 2004

		# of Apps	Completed	Open	EXP/CNX Suspended	Replacement
FY 97-98	(SPA only)	44	34	0	10	0
FY 99		53	46	0	7	6
FY 2000		42	32	0	10	7
FY 2001		71	56	0	15	14
FY 2002		111	100	0	11	18
FY 2003		51	36	4	11	38
FY 2004		4	2	2	0	3

FY 03-04

Spring Water Farms	HI	SW 30-3-32	Complete	Industrial
Spring Water Farms	HI	SW 30-3-32	Complete	Industrial
Spring Water Farms	HI	SW 30-3-32	Complete	Industrial
Spring Water Farms	HI	SW 30-3-32	EXP	Industrial
Les Schmidt	RW	SE 13-4-28	Complete	Replacement
Ron Montross	HI	SE 20-2-35	Complete	Replacement
City of McCook	RW	NE 4-4-30	Complete	(Dave Unger)
City of McCook	RW	SW 1-4-30	EXP	(Solomon)
City of McCook	RW	NW 31-3-27	EXP	(Ervin Schaffert)
City of McCook	RW	SE 16-4-29	Complete	(Gayle Ruggles)
Ron Montross	HI	SW 20-2-35	Complete	Replacement
Ron Montross	HI	SW 20-2-35	EXP	Replacement
Terry Ellinger	HI	SE 22-4-31	Complete	Replacement
Willow Farms Inc	HA	SW 2-6-31	Complete	Replacement
Larry Burke	FR	NW 20-6-34	Complete	Replacement
Darrel Deterding	RW	SE 10-3-26	Complete	Replacement
Richard Drake	RW	SW 16-3-30	Complete	Replacement
Dorsey Resler	HA	NW 33-8-35	EXP	Replacement
Pat Stritt	RW	NW 12-3-27	Complete	Replacement
Orville Kaschke	LI	NW 36-11-30	Complete	Replacement
Hohensee Land Co.	HI	SE 19-3-35	Complete	Replacement
Kester Land Co.	FR	NW 31-6-25	Complete	Replacement
Witte Inc.	RW	NE 11-3-26	Complete	Replacement
Jeannie Eiscnach	HI	NE 22-4-33	EXP	Replacement
Claude Cappel	RW	SW 20-3-30	Complete	Replacement
Claude Cappel	RW	SW 20-3-30	Complete	Replacement
Claude Cappel	RW	SW 20-3-30	Complete	Replacement
Richard Wilcox	RW	SE 36-3-30	Complete	Replacement
Gene Kleinschmidt	HI	NW 18-2-34	Complete	Replacement
Wendell Peterson	FR	SW 26-8-28	Complete	Replacement
J. T. Kiplinger	RW	SE 7-2-29	Complete	Replacement
Darrell Wulf	RW	NE 13-4-26	Complete	Replacement (I.P)
Village of Bartley	RW	NE 12-4-27	CNX	Test Well
Tom Remus	LI	SE 4-10-30	Complete	Replacement
Village of Maywood	FR	NW 21-8-29	Complete	Replacement
Nina Wagner	HI	SW 8-3-31	EXP	Replacement
Southwest Biofuels	RW	SE 20-3-30	Complete	Industrial

Southwest Biofuels	RW	SE 20-3-30	Complete	Industrial
Southwest Biofuels	RW	SE 20-3-30	EXP	Replacement
Village of Bartley	RW	SE 6-4-26	EXP	Test Well-Expedited
Mary Jane McKillip Trust	RW	NW 7-3-26	Complete	Replacement
K & R Farms	HA	SW 7-5-35		Replacement
Tom Baker	HI	NW 7-3-32	CNX	Replacement (Ind)
Kester Land Co.	FR	SW 25-6-26	Complete	Replacement
Clara Grabenstein	FR	NW 8-8-27		Industrial
Warren Schaffert	HI	NW 4-2-32	Complete	Replacement
Scott Hanchera	RW	NE 14-3-28	Complete	Replacement
Baker Corp.	HI	NW 7-3-32	Complete	Industrial
Craig Nelson	HA	SW 28-6-34	Complete	Replacement
George Seward	HA	NE 23-7-35		Replacement
Robert Korrell	HA	NW 23-5-32		Replacement

FY 04-05

Kurt Ross	HA	SE 18-4-31	Complete	Replacement
Bernard Koctter	RW	NW 17-3-29		Replacement
Les Sides	RW	NW 14-4-27	Complete	Replacement
Baker Corp.	HI	NE 12-3-33		Industrial
City of McCook	RW	36-3-30		Notice of Intent