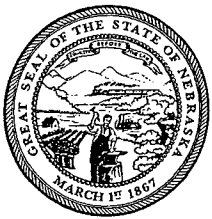


# STATE OF NEBRASKA



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
Roger K. Patterson  
Director

November 3, 2004

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Mike Johanns  
Governor

Lower Republican Natural Resources District  
Garold Ohmstede, Chair  
706 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
P.O. Box 618  
Alma, NE 68920

Dear Mr. Ohmstede,

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: Middle Republican NRD  
Upper 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

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, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

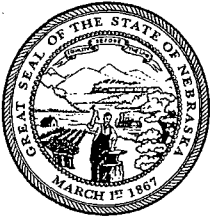
cc: Chief Hydrologic Engineering Branch, 601 East 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Kansas City, KS 64106  
GP-4500 (Gordon Aycock)

RECEIVED

OCT 25 2004

DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES

# STATE OF NEBRASKA



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
Roger K. Patterson  
Director

November 3, 2004

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Mike Johanns  
Governor

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.

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Roger K. Patterson  
Director

Enclosure

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Lower Republican NRD  
Tri-Basin NRD  
Dave Cookson



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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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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, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

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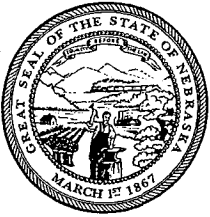
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GP-4500 (Gordon Aycock)

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OCT 25 2004

DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES

# STATE OF NEBRASKA



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
**Roger K. Patterson**  
Director

November 3, 2004

IN REPLY REFER TO:

**Mike Johanns**  
Governor

Tri-Basin Natural Resources District  
Bradley Lundeen, Chair  
1308 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Holdrege, NE 68949

Dear Mr. <sup>Burd</sup> Lundeen,

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".

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Roger K. Patterson  
Director

Enclosure

cc: Middle Republican NRD  
Upper Republican NRD  
Lower Republican 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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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, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
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Area Manager

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OCT 25 2004

DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES

# STATE OF NEBRASKA



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
Roger K. Patterson  
Director

November 3, 2004

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Mike Johanns  
Governor

Upper Republican Natural Resources District  
Greg Pelster, Chair  
135 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
P.O. Box 1140  
Imperial, NE 69033

Dear Mr. <sup>Greg</sup> Pelster,

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".

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Tri-Basin NRD  
Dave Cookson



# United States Department of the Interior



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NATURAL RESOURCES

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