

**Sheridan HPA SD-6
February 4, 2009 Meeting
Participant Comments (C) / Questions (Q) and District Responses (R)**

Q: Does time and temperature reduce pumpage amounts (referring to electric wells being shut off during high temperature times)?

R: Hard to say. The water use report data before the mandate and after might reveal an answer.

Q: Is there a way to find out how many wells there are in this HPA on the interruptible service?

R: Not sure how much data and information is available from the power companies.

C: Soil moisture does not seem to be adversely impacted by the interruptible service.

R: Noted.

C: Must be careful using a percentage reduction – the user that has already cut back get hurt the worst.

R: This may well be the case. It would need to be recognized in any recommendations that might be made from this meeting group.

Q: Are alternative supplies viable? Would setting aside acres work? Could the state and/or federal government be engaged to promote and assist in out of area water transfers or recharge?

R: Alternative supplies are likely not viable. The Dakota and deeper aquifers have water quality problems and nobody has offered yet to transfer their excessive supplies to another location. Recharge may be part of the solution, but any recharge would have to come from local water supplies (area rainfall).

Q: Should the observation well network be increased?

R: Several felt that the well network should be increased, but appreciated the costs associated with collecting new data – especially from dedicated monitoring wells.

Q: What is the effect of surrounding wells? Do they cancel gains made within the area?

R: The hydrologic modeling done thus far is indicating that the reduced pumpage of one area benefits that area for a number of years into the future before surrounding pumpage begins to affect the area. This situation results due to the slow movement of groundwater, which can delay outside pumping influences for several decades.

Q: Are there other sources of water level data? What about well owners who have such measurements? Isn't some of this data available on the water use reports?

R: It could be beneficial to have this data for consideration. How would be the best way to get it? GMD 4 can glean the water use reports and make this data available next meeting.

C: Want to meet again on June 17, at 1:30 P.M. here in the Hoxie Elks Lodge, and discuss some model run results. Look at 20%, 40% and 60% reductions in total HPA pumpage – each percentage looked at by the same three methods as run during the calibration runs - % reduction across the board; % reduction via a CREP program; and % reduction via strict water rights administration by priority.

R: Noted.

(NOTE: The above items were merely captured as comments/questions/discussion points. No final decisions or recommendations were made by the meeting participants regarding any of them. If any participant feels these notes are in error or need more clarification, GMD staff should be contacted about those concerns.)