

August 3, 2012

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Sam Brownback, Governor

WAYNE BOSSERT, MANAGER
NORTHWEST KANSAS
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DIST #4
PO BOX 905
COLBY KS 67701

RE: SD-6 LEMA Proposal

Dear Wayne,

Pursuant to Section 1 (a) of Senate Bill 310, I and my staff have reviewed GMD 4's LEMA proposal for Sheridan County submitted to me on July 16, 2012 (dated June 15, 2012). This review was limited to the following, as to whether the plan:

- (1) proposes clear geographic boundaries;
- (2) pertains to an area wholly within the groundwater management district;
- (3) proposes goals and corrective control provisions as provided in subsection (f) adequate to meet the stated goals;
- (4) includes a compliance monitoring and enforcement element; and
- (5) is consistent with state law.

Based on this review, I find that, on its face, the proposal meets these requirements and thus is acceptable for consideration. On this basis, I am initiating proceedings to consider the designation of the proposed local enhanced management area.

The next steps will be a two-hearing process, starting with an initial hearing to resolve the following findings of fact:

- (1) Whether one or more of the circumstances specified in subsection (a) through (d) of K.S.A. 82a-1036, and amendments thereto, exist;
- (2) whether the public interest of K.S.A. 82a-1020, and amendments thereto, requires that one or more corrective control provisions be adopted; and
- (3) whether the geographic boundaries are reasonable.

I have appointed a hearing officer to conduct this initial hearing on these matters, scheduled for September 13 in Hoxie, Kansas.

If the hearing officer's findings are favorable on all three issues of fact and an expansion of geographic boundaries is not recommended, a subsequent hearing will be held to determine whether the area should be designated and the GMD's proposed local enhanced management plan for the area be adopted.

Let me know if you have any questions on these matters.

Sincerely,

David W. Barfield, P.E.

Chief Engineer

DWB:spf

pc: Scott Ross, Stockton Water Commissioner