WESTERN KANSAS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO.1

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS SCHEDULED

Western Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 1 has been essentially closed to new appropriations of water since the enactment of **K.A.R. 5-21-8 Percent change of saturated thickness** (total saturated thickness is depleted by 15% or more since 1950) and **K.A.R. 5-21-9 Saturated thickness** (total saturated thickness is less than 40 feet thick) which was implemented and became effective September 22, 2000 and through safe yield analysis. The Board of Directors of Western Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 1 submitted a recommendation for revisions to **K.A.R. 5-21-4 Safe yield** that if approved, would formally close the District by Rule and Regulation to new appropriations in the Ogallala and Niobrara formations that are located within the District. A Public Hearing on the Proposed Administrative Regulations will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 16, 2011 in the 4th floor training room of the KS Department of Agriculture, 109 S.W. 9th Street Topeka, KS and at a satellite location at the Western KS Groundwater Management District No. 1 Office at 906 West 5th Street in Scott City, KS. If you have any questions, feel free to contact our office at (620) 872-5563. References to the Notice of Hearing, Economic Impact Statement and revised regulation are available upon request to our office or they can be found on our website at http://www.gmd1.org.

WATER USE REPORTS DUE MARCH 1, 2011

The 2010 Annual Water Use Reports are due March 1, 2011 to the KS Division of Water Resources. Failure to do so can be subject to penalties and fines. You must file the report(s) even if you did not exercise (pump) your water right during 2010. Make sure you fill out your report(s) completely including beginning and ending meter readings. If your water right is enrolled in a federal or state conservation program you still need to file a report. This applies to flow meters and hour meters. These forms were sent out to water right holders in early January this year. If you have any questions on filling out your water use report or justifiable use or nonuse, contact our office.

ANNUAL MEETING

The 38th Western Kansas Groundwater Management District #1 Annual Meeting will be held in Tribune, KS on Tuesday, March 15, 2011 at the 4-H Building. The Meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m. CST. Included in the program will be updates on the District, election of the Wallace County Director, and the presentation of the 2012 Budget.

BOX 604, 906 W. 5TH
SCOTT CITY, KANSAS 67871
(620) 872-5563

METERS

In Groundwater Management District #1 all wells, other than domestic, are required to have a properly installed and operational water measuring device. This is a matter of both the District and state regulations. In GMD #1 this applies to flow metered wells and wells that have been previously approved for hour meters. It is the responsibility of every water right holder and well owner to make sure that their metering device is installed, accessible, and operating correctly. Failure to do so is subject to non-compliance and possible other penalties. As many of you are aware, The Kansas Division of Water Resources Staff has significantly increased their random inspections of well sites and meters. This has resulted in a number of noncompliance letters being sent out by the KDWR Field Office in Garden City. To avoid this, be sure your flow meters are properly installed and in operational condition. This also applies to authorized hour metered wells. Hour meters on electric wells need to be accessible for reading without interrupting the power supply or shutting off the system. Hour meters that can be reset to zero are not recommended. Take time to inspect and if needed, repair or replace non-functional metering devices prior to the irrigation season. If you have questions or if repair or replacement of the meter is required, be sure to contact our office. You can also go to our website at http://www.gmd1.org to get information on metering and meter reporting forms.

FLOW TESTING HOUR METERED WELLS

If you were scheduled to have your hour metered well(s) flow tested in 2010 but were unable to get it done, or if it has been more than 5 years since your last flow test on your hour metered well(s) and you plan to operate the well(s) in 2011, contact the District Office in order to get this accomplished during 2011. You can also get this done by a certified flow rate tester. Appropriate documentation is required. Forms are available from the District office and once completed, should be returned to the District office. The well(s) should be tested after they have run at least a few days in order to get a representative test. If you have recently installed a flow meter or made changes to your diversion works, notify the District office.

AT A GLANCE

Water Use Reports Due – March 1, 2011
GMD #1 Annual Meeting – March 15, 2011
Administrative Regulations Public Hearing – March 16, 2011
Verified Claims Due – April 1, 2011