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December 11, 2017

David Barfield Chief Engineer Division of Water Resources 1320 Research Park Drive Manhattan, Kansas 66502

> Administrative Hearing re City of Wichita Re:

ASR Permit Condition Modifications

Dear Mr. Barfield:

We are writing on behalf of the Equus Beds Groundwater Management District Number 2 as it relates to a hearing regarding proposed modifications to the City of Wichita ASR permit conditions. This is a matter of vital public importance and we believe numerous entities and constituents have an interest in the final result. It is our belief that the Division of Water Resources (DWR) also has a vested stake in the outcome of this matter and has been involved in directing policy in this regard.

As you know, you have the authority to delegate the hearing power to a designee not directly employed by DWR. Given the delicate nature of this matter and DWR's involvement in this important policy matter, we are respectfully requesting that you appoint a disinterested designee to serve as the hearing officer in this matter. We believe that this would go a long way to promote to the public a perception of impartiality and minimize any accusations of bias in the process.

Of course we have researched this matter and we are happy to supply our rationale for this simple request. We very much appreciate your thoughtful attention to this matter and your cooperation in granting this outcome. We also hope that you can understand the justification for our request and please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

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Equus Beds GMD #2

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Attorney

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