

STATE OF KANSAS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE CAPITOL
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612
(785) 296-8503
lindsay.vaughn@house.ks.gov



8227 SANTA FE DR.
OVERLAND PARK, KANSAS 66204
(913) 523-6280
lindsayforkansashouse@gmail.com

LINDSAY VAUGHN
22ND DISTRICT

June 29, 2022

Earl Lewis, Chief Engineer
Division of Water Resources
Kansas Department of Agriculture
1320 Research Park Drive
Manhattan, KS 66502

Dear Earl,

It is my pleasure to write a letter of support for Groundwater Management District #1's proposed District-Wide Local Enhanced Management Area (LEMA). I had the opportunity to visit GMD 1 during the LEMA drafting process and saw how much work went into building community support for their proposal. The overwhelming success of their public hearings is a testament to these efforts.

While talking with local producers, it was also clear they knew what was at stake and were ready to take action to conserve and extend the usable life of the Ogallala Aquifer. The speed of GMD 1's LEMA process proves they have taken this task seriously.

LEMA's are an excellent tool for not only decreasing groundwater depletion but also changing the mindsets of groundwater users. While it will take time to reach sustainable use and for everyone to recognize the collective benefit of reduced pumping, this LEMA is a good step in the right direction. GMD 1 has brought their members together to find a unique solution that balances stakeholder interests with responsible groundwater stewardship.

Strong local leadership is needed to ensure our cherished groundwater resources are available for generations to come. GMD 1 is joining GMD 4 in taking up that gauntlet, and they should be commended for their excellent work.

Ad Astra Per Aspera,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lindsay Vaughn'.

Rep. Lindsay Vaughn