



Murrison Environmental, Inc.
Environmental Field Services
1619 E Johnson Street
Garden City, Kansas 67846

February 9, 2023

Four-County LEMA
c/o Ronda Hutton
1320 Research Park Drive
Manhattan, KS 66502

RE: GMD 1 Four County LEMA Proposal

Dear Chief Engineer Lewis:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments regarding the proposed Four-County LEMA by GMD1. As an environmental consultant working with livestock facilities in southwest Kansas for over 20 years, I am aware of the importance of sustainable water use of the Ogallala Aquifer.

Recently, DWR has allowed existing irrigation water rights to be converted to "dual-use", in which the existing water right may be used for irrigation, stockwater or both. The water right is reduced by the consumptive use percentage designated by DWR appropriate for the county that the producer is located in as long as the water right remains dual use. I would recommend that the GMD 1 Four-County LEMA exclude water rights designated as dual use from the proposed reductions since there has already been a consumptive use reduction providing for up to 18% water use savings. If further reduction is required for dual use rights, livestock facilities that rely on the full dual use authorization may find that the water they thought they had secured for their livestock no longer exists.

Again we appreciate the opportunity to submit comments on this matter. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Regards,

Scott A. Murrison
Owner/President – Murrison Environmental, Inc
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