

Public comment for the Hays/Russell Water Transfer Application  
OAH No. 23AG0023AG

RECEIVED WATER RESOURCES

JUN 21 2023

June 14, 2023

KS DEPT AGRICULTURE

Sirs:

Approval of this application would be beneficial for Hays, Russell and area regions, as well as for the State of Kansas. Approval would keep the two-billion-dollar regional economy thriving, and continuing to grow.

Depopulation of the region is a major concern, for not only the region, but for the state of Kansas. This year the legislature approved two million dollars for a campaign aimed at bringing people back to Kansas, which lost about 7,400 people due to domestic migration from 2021 to 2022. Commerce officials say they need to get aggressive about luring people back to Kansas.

Approval of this application would benefit the State with their battle of depopulation, by creating more jobs and opportunities, and in the retention of younger workers leaving the region in search of employment.

Respectfully,  
Ron Mellick  
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