

Darrell Wood - Edwards (Pres.)
Fred Grunder - Pratt (V Pres.)
John Janssen - Kiowa (Treas.)
Jerry Cullop - Rice (Sec.)
Justin Gatz - Reno
Kent Lamb - Stafford
Phil Martin - Barton
Kerry Froetschner - Pawnee
Tom Taylor - At-Large



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FEB 16 2018

Big Bend GMD #5

Orrin Feril, Manager
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In accordance with K.S.A. 82a-1041, Big Bend Groundwater Management District #5 ("District") is pursuing a Local Enhanced Management Area ("LEMA"). On February 15, 2018, the District board presented the key components of the draft LEMA plan at the annual meeting. These components are: 1) end gun removal within entire LEMA area, 2) implement streamflow augmentation at a rate of 15 cubic feet per second ("cfs"); and 3) promote movement or retirement of water rights out of sensitive areas of the LEMA. The draft LEMA document is available for public review and comment. Please use this form to submit comments and concerns to the District by **March 1, 2018**.

Name (optional): **Kyle Kaiser**

Contact Info (optional): **kyle@goldenbeltfeeders.com (913) 702-6073 (620) 549-3241**

From: Kyle Kaiser
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2018 1:25 PM
To: Orrin Feril
Subject: LEMA / Equipment Restrictions

Hi Orrin,

Thank you for your diligent work to mitigate the negative effects on irrigated agriculture caused by the Quivira impairment. We think the GMD, affiliated organizations, & individuals who have helped draft the LEMA proposal have the best interests of our area in mind. Golden Belt Feeders certainly wants to be a part of the solution & understands the long term viability of irrigated agriculture within the GMD #5 boundaries is fundamental to our business' success.

Our main concern with the LEMA proposal is the restriction on our equipment. We understand the need to solve Quivira's impairment in a fair, equitable, & least damaging way. The solution of eliminating end guns to start seems to be a logical & beneficial step. This will unfortunately cause our business serious harm because we use center pivot sprinklers, most of which are tied to a freshwater right, to dewater our feedyard facility. The use of end guns is tremendously important to the process of dewatering because the end gun allows solids to exit the sprinkler instead of clogging drop nozzles. When solids from the lagoons clog a sprinkler nozzle the nozzle needs to be manually cleaned & if not cleaned in time these plugged nozzles can destroy an otherwise healthy crop. The other serious concern with removing end guns from our sprinklers that are used to dewater our feedyard facility is the removal of acreage that is currently in our waste management plan. We carefully monitor soil health, crop yields, commodity prices, lagoon compliance levels, feedyard occupancy levels, & other factors to determine the acreage needed to land apply effluent from our feedyard; this removal of end guns on multiple systems used to dewater will severely hinder our ability to manage lagoon levels, produce beneficial crops, & keep our facility operating efficiently.

We think a special use permit or exemption would be a logical way to achieve the LEMA's goals without hindering an irrigator's ability to land apply effluent. An operator could turn off the end guns while pumping fresh water on these particular fields & use the end guns only to pump effluent & in the minimal instances that they need to flush solids out of the system using a small amount of fresh water. It seems that this would allow those who land apply effluent to manage their facilities productively & efficiently while also producing a good crop & achieving the water conservation goals of the LEMA.

Please let me know if we can provide any further information, answer any questions, or help in any way. As stated above the success of irrigators in the GMD #5 is paramount to the continued success of Golden Belt Feeders & we are committed to helping solve the Quivira impairment issue. Thank you for your continued efforts & your consideration of our unique circumstances in this matter.

Best Regards,
Kyle D. Kaiser