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December 7, 2018

P.O. Box 175
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Dear Kanza Cooperative Association Board of Directors:

In response to your November 2018 addressed to “All Affected Parties,” it appears **All** Affected Parties are not being consulted. Instead the “Affected Parties” are reduced to those humans speaking English, raising monoculture crops of corn primarily in the marsh-like plains of Pratt, Stafford Kiowa, Pawnee, and Edwards counties in Kansas, the suppliers of inputs by KANZA COOP for those farming there, and for all those whose bottom line would be adversely affected by restoring water rights to those creatures who enjoyed first rights.

The United States is massively over-producing corn. Even Trump’s Market Facilitation Program gives just \$0.01 or one penny per bushel of corn to prop up the corn price received by farmers. Really, can’t we learn to adjust and give back something to the environment for all the water we’ve taken for short term gain?

Quivira National Wildlife Refuge and Chyenne Bottoms provide critical habitat and resting space on the Central Flyway for Millions and Millions of migratory birds. These and the critters whose home is the wetlands add more to our quality of life than sacks of grain and wallets filled with dollars for a few wealthy people.

It is time KANZA COOP develops a more responsible view that does not rest on mining our precious soils and draining million year old water. KANZA COOP should become a leader in the sustainability movement. Think hard about that, what it takes for farmers and merchants to turn from the market economy to bringing new products that enhance diversity and empower more people not less.

Sincerely,

Donna L. Wygle

Copy to the Big Bend Groundwater Management District 5

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Big Bend GMD #5