



109 SW 9th Street, 2nd Floor  
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1283

phone: (785) 296-3717  
fax: (785) 296-1176  
www.ksda.gov/dwr

Dale A. Rodman, Secretary  
David W. Barfield, Chief Engineer

Sam Brownback, Governor

December 14, 2012

Brian P. Dunnigan, P.E.  
Nebraska Commissioner  
Republican River Compact Administration  
Nebraska Department of Natural Resources  
301 Centennial Mall South  
PO Box 94676  
Lincoln NE 68509-4676

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DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES

RE: Request for backup data on forecasts

Commissioner Dunnigan,

During our discussion at the special RRCA meeting on Tuesday, December 11, 2012, the States discussed the significance of Nebraska's Republican River Basin Forecast for 2013 water administration by Nebraska. I understand that the Forecast will not be final until around January 1, 2013, and that the general methodology for the Forecast is laid out in the IMPs.

However, as I explained on the call, it would be helpful to Kansas to have a full and more specific understanding of the Forecast as it is now being applied to the Basin especially in light of expected discussion between the States in the coming days and weeks on 2013 water administration. Deputy director Schneider indicated that Nebraska is willing to provide Kansas with the back-up data used for Nebraska's calculations related to the preliminary forecast. This letter memorializes Kansas' request that Nebraska provide that back-up data, including any spreadsheets, model runs, datasets used, assumptions, etc. In answer to a question of mine, I believe Mr. Schneider indicated that no model runs were used to develop the forecast. I assume he was speaking about the 2013 projection. If a model run is done to estimate of 2012 depletions based on pumping estimates from power record and/or meter records, please provide us with the pumping estimates and model runs.

Given that Nebraska may issue surface water closing notices on January 1, 2013, your prompt attention to this matter would be greatly appreciated.

In addition, I would ask that when Nebraska makes the Forecast final, that you provide us with the final versions of this backup information.

Finally, as information becomes available related to projected increases to stream flow which Nebraska anticipates from Nebraska's groundwater management actions and surface water administration, we would appreciate this information and its backup.

Thanks for your attention to these matters. I look forward to close coordination with the Department in the coming weeks over these critical matters to our States and constituents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David W. Barfield". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" and last name "Barfield" clearly legible.

David W. Barfield, P.E.  
Kansas Chief Engineer

cc: Dick Wolfe



Sam Brownback, Governor

Department of Agriculture  
Division of Water Resources  
109 SW 9th Street, 2nd Floor  
Topeka, KS 66612-1283

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BRIAN P DUNNIGAN PE  
NEBRASKA COMMISSIONER  
REPUBLICAN RIVER COMPACT ADMINISTRATION  
NEBRASKA DEPT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
301 CENTENNIAL MALL SOUTH  
PO BOX 97676  
LINCOLN NE 68509 4676

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