

ADM-13.00

KANSAS

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

January 26, 2005

John W. Keys, III
Commissioner/Bureau of Reclamation
Main Interior Building/Room 7060-MIB
1849 C Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20240-0001



KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, GOVERNOR			
Steve	✓		1/31
Alice	✗		2/1
Mike	✓		2-1
Jack	✓	✓	2/3
REMARKS: No action required by NKAs until Commissioner approves drought request JKW			

Dear Commissioner Keys:

Kansas, like many other western States, has suffered devastating economic and environmental impacts from on-going drought conditions.

Title I of the Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1991 (PL 102-250) provides broad authority to the Secretary of Interior to utilize the facilities of the Federal reclamation program and the resources of the Department of Interior to address drought conditions to the West.

Section 104 of the Act says in part; "The programs and authorities established under this title shall become operative in any Reclamation State only after the Governor of the affected State has made a request for temporary drought assistance and the Secretary, or his/her appointee, has determined that such temporary assistance is merited..."

Accordingly, I am requesting temporary drought assistance for the State of Kansas. In 2004, the Bureau and state of Kansas worked cooperatively through this program to limit irrigation releases for the Kansas Bostwick Irrigation District. The result of this effort was higher water levels in Harlan County Reservoir with additional water available for this and subsequent years. All involved with this project believe that it has been a success.

I urge that you determine that such assistance is merited. The resources of Kansas state government are available to you in making such a determination. Please contact Tracy Streeter, Acting Director of the Kansas Water Office, for further information. His phone number is (785) 296-3185.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Sebelius
Governor of the State of Kansas

cc: Jaralyn Beek, Acting Regional Director
Great Plains Regional Office

Alice E. Johns, Area Manager
Nebraska-Kansas Area Office

Larry Walkoviak, Area Manager
Oklahoma-Texas Area Office

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