



MIKE WILDGEN, CITY MANAGER

City of Lawrence KANSAS

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June 13, 2005

Tracy Streeter, Director
Kansas Water Office
901 S. Kansas Avenue
Topeka, KS 66612-1249

Dear Mr. Streeter:

The City of Lawrence will need the water supply from Clinton Reservoir for many generations in the future. Consequently, the citizens and governing body have continually made past and future commitments to invest in drinking water facilities and purchase of storage in the Clinton reservoir through the Water Marketing program. Recent items of interest involving staff review and evaluation with the Kansas Water Office and other agencies include:

- Comments and input in the procedures to review the re-allocation of water contracts from fully committed reservoirs in the water marketing program.
- Initiating and participating in a study to evaluate nutrient loading, taste and odor concerns, and watershed impact to Clinton Reservoir.
- Core group participation in the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) program.
- Review and comments of the recent yield study of Clinton Reservoir.

An issue of considerable interest is the sedimentation of the Clinton Reservoir and the associated impact to the long term water supply yields. We have discussed this issue at various times with members of the KWO staff and realize that KWO staff agrees with the importance of the topic. Recent supporting documentation from the KWO includes the following statement: *The State and local governments have made significant investments in our reservoirs, many of which are threatened by eutrophication, i.e. excessive nutrient loading, as well as diminished storage capacity due to sediment deposition.*



Although the process of sedimentation was anticipated, a comprehensive strategy for prolonging their useful life and ultimately restoring their functions was considered as a future issue to be addressed someday. That someday is now. Successfully addressing reservoir eutrophication and sedimentation issues will involve development of a management strategy for each reservoir and its contributing watershed, utilizing a combination of education, incentives and regulatory programs.

The City of Lawrence agrees with this statement and hopeful that your office will continue to keep this item in the forefront of primary issues.

Lawrence staff is aware of an ongoing study of El Dorado Lake being completed with cooperation from the KWO, the City of El Dorado, and the U.S. Army COE. As we understand, the study (as noted in your records and through conversations with KWO staff) is a pilot program intended to identify the following:

- Effective reservoir restoration and protection measures to ensure long term availability of storage space for public water supplies in federal reservoirs.
- Identify Watershed restoration and protection needs and determine opportunities to implement effective sedimentation management practices.
- Develop cost estimates for dredging and construction of sediment traps.

The City of Lawrence recognizes the El Dorado study was initiated to answer questions and provide direction for the review and evaluation of other federal reservoirs. Consequently, the City is requesting consideration from the KWO and KWA to place the Clinton Reservoir on a priority track to complete a similar sedimentation management study with consideration of funding participation by any excess funding available at the completion of the El Dorado study or funds allocated in the Kansas Water Plan for this particular item. Staff believes two (2) important considerations in the decision to prepare a sediment management plan for the Clinton Reservoir are the ongoing WRAPS program that will support a sediment plan and consideration that Clinton is the only federal reservoir in the water marketing program that is fully allocated for water supply storage.

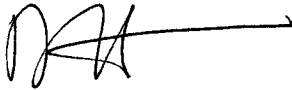
In addition to the KWO study, staff understands that members of the Kansas legislature have introduced a bill in 2004 (HB 2484) that would credit the Clean Drinking Water Fee's to the state water plan fund. The associated funds would be used in the protection and restoration of lakes being used for drinking water supply. The City of Lawrence supports this funding method as well as a State at

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large approach as opportunities to allocate funds to address sedimentation management plans for the reservoirs.

This important issue is an area that will require innovative ideas and forward thinking to keep this as a primary concern for the future citizens in Lawrence and in other communities across Kansas. We support this effort and thank you for your assistance. Please let us know of any questions or how we may help to accomplish the common goal to extend the design life of the water supply yield from Clinton reservoir.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DHA' with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dennis "Boog" Highberger
Mayor

DH/bjw

pc: City Commission
Mike Wildgen, City Manager
Roger Coffey, Director of Utilities
State Legislative Delegation
Craig Weinaug, Douglas County Administrator