



Southwest Kansas
Groundwater Management District No. 3
2009 E. Spruce Street
Garden City, Kansas 67846-6158
(620) 275-7147 phone (620) 275-1431 fax
www.gmd3.org

Testimony on House Bill 2051

to

The House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

By

Mark E. Rude, Executive Director

Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 3

February 7, 2013

Chairwoman Schwartz and members of the committee, my name is Mark Rude. I am executive director of the Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No.3 (GMD3). I am writing in support of the water management elements of HB 2051 with the following recommended revisions:

Page 6, line 36 states “ (B) the water right has not been the subject of a change approval to implement the provisions of K.A.R. 5-5-9(a)(2), K.A.R. 5-5-11(b)(2) or K.A.R. 5-5-11(b)(3), in effect upon the effective date of this act.”

We request that this prohibition be removed from the act to allow the purposes of the act to be available to those water users already closely monitored by local groundwater management districts for compliance.

Page 7, between line 11 and line 12, we recommend a reference something like “water conservation for a groundwater right, which has as its local supply an aquifer area that has been closed to new appropriations by rule, regulation or order of the chief engineer, shall include non-use.”

We recognize the view of the chief engineer may not count non-use of a water right as water conserved. The suggested revision is intended to insure a consistency with K.S.A. 82a-718 as revised by the legislature last year.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide these comments. I will stand for questions at the appropriate time.