



ARKANSAS WATER PLAN EXECUTIVE SUMMARY PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT COMMENTS

Thank you for taking the time to give us your comments. Please use as many sheets as necessary.

Date: October 24, 2014

Page Number:

Location on Page (e.g.. column and paragraph, section number, figure number, or table number):

Comment:

Please see attached comments.

Note: Suggestions of specific wording changes are most helpful for making this a better plan

Do you wish to be contacted about your comments? Yes No

The following information is optional unless you would like to be contacted about your comments:

Name: Attn: Jordan P. Wimpy

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October 24, 2014

Arkansas Natural Resources Commission
Attn: Mr. Ed Swaim
Water Resources Division Manager
101 East Capitol Avenue, Suite 350
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Re: Comments Regarding the Arkansas Water Plan Executive Summary and Related Documents

Dear Mr. Swaim:

Mr. Tom Wimpy, Prairie City Farms, Inc., and the Poinsett County Farm Bureau (collectively the "Commenters"), hereby submit the following comments in response to the Arkansas Water Plan Executive Summary. The Commenters support the efforts of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission to update the Arkansas Water Plan as a long-term strategy to guide the use, management, development and conservation of water for all citizens. Furthermore, the Commenters appreciate the opportunity to participate in the public process by timely submitting the following comments.

- The Commenters support, generally, those substantive and procedural comments submitted by the Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation.
- **Section 2.1 Demand Projections - Bullet 10:** Overstates the necessity of evaluating alternative methods for determining minimum stream flows and excess surface water. Further, the statement does not reflect the *accepted* view of all stakeholders.

Similarly, Section 7.1 of the **Water Availability Report** declares that it was "[t]he general opinion of the subgroup [] that a new method [was] needed to determine fish and wildlife flow requirements; one that better addresses relationships between ecology and hydrology." This statement of opinion by no means represents the view of the entire group of stakeholders or the Commenters. Additionally, any development of a new method to establish fish and wildlife flow requirements must, in the very least, include: a detailed economic impact analysis of the method(s); sufficient public review and

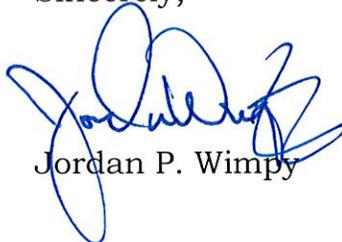
participation (especially among the stakeholders); and, properly considered demands of all current and foreseeable agricultural production.

Finally, the Commenters oppose the utilization of the Ecological Limits of Hydrologic Alteration (ELOHA), referenced in the **Water Availability Report**, as the method for calculating minimum flows and excess surface water.

- **Section 3.1 Conjunctive Water Management and Groundwater Decline:** The Commenters support the voluntary placement (*i.e. lease or purchase*) of meters on selected alluvial wells, but remain opposed to any attempt of or reference to any authority by the ANRC to “condemn sites for meter installation.”
- **Section 3.5 Improving Water Quality through Nonpoint Source Management – Recommendations 2.b. and 3:** The Commenters strongly support the voluntary utilization of nutrient management plans and other nonpoint source management programs; however, the Commenters are concerned with the pursuit of a mandated expansion of the Nonpoint Source Pollution management program into watersheds with streams currently *attaining* water quality standards. Further, the Commenters oppose any requirement for the adoption of mandatory nutrient management plans outside current nutrient surplus areas.
- **Section 3.9 Tax Incentives & Credits for Integrated Irrigation Water Conservation – Recommendation 2:** The Commenters support the use and expansion of tax credits and other incentives for the development of integrated irrigation water conservation.

The Commenters thank you in advance for your acceptance, review and consideration of the above-stated comments.

Sincerely,



Jordan P. Wimpy