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June 9, 2009

Abdu Durar
City of Manhattan Water Division
1101 Poyntz Avenue
Manhattan, Kansas 66502-5497

RE: Wellhead Protection

Dear Abdu:

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to assist you and the City of Manhattan again.

I have reviewed the draft protection plan that we worked on a few years ago and I have some suggestions to improve it. I would welcome a meeting to discuss how the plan should probably be rewritten to be more specific. With the challenges of the past not completely gone, it would probably be better if the items in the plan are better explained with the reasons why the actions are important and how the results will be achieved. With greater understanding, better acceptance should be experienced.

Thank you again for thinking of me in your work on this project. I also should have thanked your Department earlier for allowing the Public Works staff to provide a tour of the wellfield for the Middle Kansas River Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) Project Leadership Team. I think many on the team learned of the challenges public water systems face every day by seeing first hand how there are many competing interests in and around drinking water supplies.

Please let me know at your earliest convenience when we can meet to discuss the future of the plan. You can reach me by telephone at 785/640-4701, by e-mail at dhelmke@krwa.net or by writing to 6847 SE 29th Street, Tecumseh, Kansas 66542-9571.

Sincerely,

Douglas S. Helmke, L.G.
Water Rights / Source Water Specialist
Kansas Rural Water Association

DSH
c: KRWA