



P.O. Box 226 • Seneca, KS 66538 • 785/336-3760
FAX 785/336-2751 • <http://www.krwa.net>

June 9, 2010

Shirley Hoch, Office Manager
Morris RWD 1
P.O. Box 146
Dwight, KS 66849

Dear Shirley;

This letter is in follow-up to our phone conversations regarding the concern you have about the city of Ogden depositing lagoon sludge on property across the road from the rural water district wells. After receiving the email from Steve Euler, RWD Operator, several days earlier about this issue, I visited with Vincent Kramer, II, City Clerk at Ogden, who confirmed that the city has a project ongoing to improve the city lagoon system. A part of that project is to clean and remove sludge from one of the lagoon cells. Vincent stated that their consulting engineer, Pat Cox with BG Consultants is the contact person to obtain further details of the project. I then contacted Mr. Cox who also confirmed that sludge would be removed from one of the cells but that no definite plan for disposing of the sludge had been prepared by the contractor. He stated also, that any plan proposed by the contractor must meet both their approval as well as KDHE's approval and that now, being aware of the location of the rural water district wells, they will pay special attention to be sure that any proposed plan for sludge disposal would meet KDHE's separation distance requirement.

It should be noted that municipal wastewater sludge must meet a number of requirements before it can be disposed-of on cropland. These requirements or standards are contained in 40CFR Part 503 of the Federal Regulations (commonly referred to as the 503 sludge regs.). The standards require the sludge be tested for inorganic pollutants (metals), the sludge must meet pathogen reduction requirements and site restrictions, must meet vector attraction reduction requirements, and finally must be applied to cropland so as not to exceed agronomic rates for nutrients. Lagoon sludge is generally very stable, especially if the lagoon has been in service for at least 15 years, and should not cause any environmental problem as long as the sludge is applied in accordance with the 503 sludge regulations. Lastly, to hopefully dissuade any fear or concern that the rural water district wells would be jeopardized by this project, Mr. Cox stated that he would keep us informed of the sludge disposal plan.

Funding for the above assistance was provided through a contractual arrangement between the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (State Revolving Loan Program set-aside) and the Kansas Rural Water Association (KRWA). Please call the KRWA if we can be of further assistance. Also, visit the KRWA website www.krwa.net for news and information concerning water utilities, training opportunities, and other KRWA programs.

Sincerely,

Delbert C. Zerr
Consultant

C: Vincent Kramer II, Ogden City Clerk
Pat Cox, BG Consultants
Dave Waldo, KDHE, Topeka
Marsha Carpenter, KDHE, Salina

