

# DWR's Chief Engineer Pushes Forward with Statewide Metering



**O**n June 1, the Chief Engineer of the Kansas Department of Agriculture's Division of Water Resources (DWR), issued an order to all permit or water right holders within the Missouri River basin requiring the installation of an acceptable water flowmeter on their wells or pumpsites. The order was sent to 114 permit or water right holders, covering 125 points of diversion, many of which are public water suppliers. The Missouri River basin includes all of Doniphan County and parts of Atchison, Brown, Johnson, Miami, Leavenworth and Wyandotte counties. While most new permits and change orders issued by DWR since the late 1980s, have required installation of a flowmeter as a condition to the approval of applications and successful completion of new diversion works, some older permits and water rights have not yet been subject

to metering requirements. Moreover, meter specifications and accuracy requirements have become more rigorous over time. This order requires all non-domestic water users in the Missouri basin to come into compliance with the current flowmeter specifications. DWR primarily uses flowmeter data for determining compliance with water rights.

While the majority of all water right diversions in Kansas are already metered, DWR continues to work toward a goal of having meters installed on all non-domestic points of diversion as originally required by the Kansas Water Plan. Orders were also expected to be issued in October for portions of the Smoky Hill River and Chapman Creek basins, where meters were not previously required. Additionally, unmetered permits and water rights in the Republican River basin will likely receive meter orders later this year. DWR expects to have all other unmetered diversions within the Topeka Field Office area, covering approximately the eastern third of Kansas, fully metered before the end of 2017. Therefore, systems without acceptable flowmeters anywhere in the state should also begin to prepare to comply with water flowmetering requirements in the very near future, as meter orders will soon be arriving in your mailboxes.

To ensure data accuracy, water flowmeters must be certified for conformity with state specifications and must meet other criteria including straightening vanes, full pipe-flow conditions, acceptable straight-pipe spacing and installation in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications. A nearly 20-page list of acceptable meters, along with regulations, forms and additional instructions can be found on the DWR Web site at <http://agriculture.ks.gov/meters>

Each area-wide meter order will have different deadlines for compliance, which will also depend on the water system's current flowmeter status. These specific details will be included in the cover letter that will also include the system's meter order. For the Missouri River meter order,

**WHEN DO YOU SERVICE YOUR WATER STORAGE TANK?**  
 IF THE ANSWER IS "AFTER A PROBLEM"  
 ...YOU'RE SPENDING TOO MUCH

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if the city or water district received this order and the system already has acceptable flowmeters installed on its wells or pumpsites, then the system must notify DWR of that fact as soon as possible, preferably by October 1, 2016. If the system does not already have acceptable water flowmeters installed, then those must be installed by March 1, 2017. If the city or water district do not already have acceptable flowmeters installed and system will need more time to do so, a written extension request should be submitted as soon as possible, to allow DWR adequate time to evaluate those requests prior to March 1, 2017. Such a request for an extension must include justification for additional time and the system's plans for complying with the order.

Failure to comply with DWR's flowmeter order will result in a notice of non-compliance and an order to cease diversions from any unmetered well or pumpsite. A notice of non-compliance is a legal document from DWR stating that the diversion works are not in compliance with the terms, limitations and conditions of the permit, or water right, as well as any subsequent requirements of the Chief Engineer. Once the meter installation deadline has expired, DWR will not allow a well or pumpsite to be utilized, until an acceptable water flowmeter has been installed on the authorized diversion works and may also place a seal on the diversion works to document whether water has been diverted without a flowmeter. In some cases, failure to comply with DWR's requirements may also result in a monetary fine if there have been prior violations or if the violation is somehow exceptional or egregious. All penalty orders may be appealed and further instructions will be included with those documents should your situation rise to that level.

Please also note, when a system is required to have a water flowmeter installed on its diversion works, that meter data must be included on DWR's annual water use report. Water use report forms will be mailed by DWR shortly after January 1 of each calendar year. Systems are encouraged to submit their annual water use data online, through DWR's online water use portal. Simply navigate your web browser to <http://kswaterusereport.org>. The paper form received from DWR will include the system's unique Pin and Person ID, which is required to log into the portal. The online system was designed to look as much as possible like the paper forms. However, if anyone is uncomfortable with submitting water use data online, DWR will still accept the traditional paper water use report forms. In either case, the

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**CERTIFIED WATER FLOWMETERS**  
(Implementing Kansas Administrative Regulation 5-1-12)  
July 25, 2016

State of Kansas  


The following water flowmeters have been certified by their manufacturers to be in compliance with the Kansas specifications for water flowmeters as defined in Kansas Administrative Regulation (K.A.R.) 5-1-4. These flowmeters are acceptable for use where the Chief Engineer has required a water flowmeter pursuant to K.A.R. 5-1-7. In addition, if the Chief Engineer has required a water flowmeter, the flowmeter must be installed to conform with specifications in K.A.R. 5-1-6 and maintained in compliance (see K.A.R. 5-1-8 and 5-1-9).

Note: Certification of a water flowmeter model does not indicate endorsement by the Chief Engineer, the Division of Water Resources, or the Department of Agriculture.

Badger Meter, Inc. Model Number	Type and Size	DWR Requirements
160	Turbine 1½"	
200	Turbine 2"	
450	Turbine 3"	
1000	Turbine 4"	
2000	Turbine 6"	
3500	Turbine 8"	
5500	Turbine 10"	
6200	Turbine 12"	
6600	Turbine 15"	
10000	Turbine 20"	
M1000	Electromagnetic (1/4" through 8")	Meters will be shipped with a seal in place with only an administrative level password which the user will not have access to; no user or service level password. If additional setup needed, a Badger sales representative will perform and then lock with administrative password and attach seal screw kit (lead seal with wire seal). Seal kit will be easily identified (as a Badger Meter product. Administrative password will be retained only by Badger Meter and will in no case be revealed to the user.
M2000	Electromagnetic (1/4" through 54")	Meters will be shipped with a seal in place with only an administrative level password which the user will not have access to; no user or service level password. If additional setup needed, a Badger sales representative will perform

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water use information will be due in the Manhattan office by March 1. Failure to file the water use information within the time allowed will result in a fine, which can vary based on the date when delinquent water use information is finally submitted and the number of file numbers for which water use was delinquent.

Water systems must also notify DWR whenever they replace or repair the water flowmeter on their diversion works. The system will need to document the meter's make and model, as well as the date the system became aware of the meter malfunction, the date the meter was removed, the meter's register reading at the time the meter was removed and when it was installed. The water system must also keep alternate records of the amount of water diverted, while the meter was out of compliance. A detailed form for this purpose is available on the DWR Web site. This information must be submitted to the local DWR field office within 30 days of replacement or repair of a required water flowmeter.

KRWA's water rights specialists, Ken Kopp and Doug Helmke, will be glad to visit with anyone regarding the DWR metering requirements and provide assistance with any of the required paperwork. Contact Ken by email at [ken@krwa.net](mailto:ken@krwa.net) or Doug at [dhelmke@krwa.net](mailto:dhelmke@krwa.net).

*Ken Kopp, P.G., Water Rights/Source Water Specialist, joined KRWA as Water Rights/Source Water Specialist in early 2016. He previous worked for twenty-three years at the Kansas Dept. of Agriculture, Division of Water Resources and most recently was New Application Unit Supervisor.*

