

Kansas Administrative Regulations

Kansas Department of Agriculture—Division of Water Resources

Article 13.—Sand and Gravel Pit Operations

5-13-4. Exemption.

(a) To the extent that groundwater evaporation causes a substantially adverse impact to the area groundwater supply pursuant to K.A.R. 5-13-2, a new application to appropriate the groundwater evaporation caused by the project shall be exempt from meeting the safe yield, allowable appropriation, or similar types of regulations adopted by the chief engineer. This exemption shall be granted if the operator meets all of the criteria in subsection (b) because exempting the quantity of water that has been, or will be, evaporated by exposing the groundwater table beneath the proven reserves will not prejudicially and unreasonably affect the public interest and will not impair any existing water right.

(b) Except as set forth in subsection (e), in order to qualify for this exemption, the operator shall show that on December 31, 1999, all of the following conditions were met:

(1) The operator had an active, existing sand and gravel mining operation.

(2) If required, the operator had a valid surface-mining license issued pursuant to the surface-mining land conservation and reclamation act, K.S.A. 49-601 et seq., and amendments thereto.

(3) If required, the operator had made a timely application for a hydraulic dredging permit or had received a hydraulic dredging permit issued pursuant to the Kansas water appropriation act.

(4) The operator had filed the water use reports required by, and paid any civil fines assessed by the chief engineer pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-732, and amendments thereto.

(5) The operator had paid the water protection fees required by K.S.A. 82a-954, and amendments thereto.

(6) To the extent necessary to physically operate, the operator had acquired all local permits and local zoning approvals.

(7) The operator had purchased, leased, or otherwise acquired legal control over proven sand and gravel reserves.

(8) The operator had filed an application to appropriate water or filed a notice of intent to open or expand a sand and gravel pit operation with the chief engineer when required by K.S.A. 82a-734(a), and amendments thereto.

(c) It shall be the burden of the operator to show that the operator meets the requirements of subsection (b) by filing the necessary information or documentation with the chief engineer on or before December 31, 2001. An extension of time may be granted by the chief engineer for good cause if the request for extension of time is filed by the operator with the chief engineer before December 31, 2001.

(d) To the extent that the operator meets the requirements of subsection (b) above, an application to appropriate water for evaporation of the groundwater caused by exposing the groundwater table shall be exempt from complying with safe yield, allowable appropriation, and similar types of regulations adopted by the chief engineer. This exemption shall apply to all the evaporation caused by exposing the groundwater table up to the areal extent of the proven reserves that existed on December 31, 1999.

(e) If, on the effective date of this regulation, an operator was in the process of establishing a replacement operation for an active, existing sand and gravel pit operation, an exemption shall be allowed by the chief engineer for the proposed replacement operation according to subsection (d) on terms, conditions and limitations that will neither cause impairment of existing water rights nor prejudicially and unreasonably affect the public interest if all of the following criteria are met:

(1) The proposed replacement sand and gravel operation is located outside the boundaries of all groundwater management districts and intensive groundwater use control areas.

(2) The geocenter of the proposed replacement operation is located within two miles of the geocenter of the existing, active operation.

(3) The proposed replacement operation met the provisions of paragraphs (b)(1) through (b)(6) of this regulation on December 31, 1999.

(4) The proposed replacement project meets the requirements of paragraphs (b) (7) and (8) on the effective date of this regulation.

(Authorized by K.S.A. 82a-706a; implementing K.S.A. 82a-721, K.S.A. 1999 Supp. 82a-1904, and K.S.A. 82a-734; effective Sept. 22, 2000.)

***** Authenticated Kansas Administrative Regulation *****