

2018-05-25 09:19:20

Kansas Corporation Commission

/s/ Lynn M. Retz 22 May, 2018

18-CONS-3382-CUIC

Rene Stucky

Kansas Corporation Commission, Conservation Division

266 N. Main St., Ste. 220, Wichita, KS 67202-1513

Dear Mr. Stucky:

In reply to your 15 May, 2018 acknowledgement that you have received my initial protest letter re: the Notice published by RJM Company in the Great Bend Tribune on April 27, 2018, I am now writing in protest of this application, to again ask that the KCC deny the application filed by RJM Company to commence the disposal of saltwater into the Arbuckle/ Granite Wash formation at the JB Lease Well No. 2 1430 FSL 1320 FWL; located in the SW/4 of the Sec.34 Twp.16S R.12W, Barton County, Kansas with a maximum operating 0 psig, and a maximum injection rate of 900 bbls per day, and to request a public hearing on the matter.

My reason for this are the same as originally stated in my initial protest letter:

As a resident citizen of Kansas, I have grave concern regarding the manner in which this application, if granted, could result in pollution and permanent damage to one of Kansas largest and greatest natural resources -- the Cheyenne Bottoms Wetlands and Wildlife Refuge -- located 7 miles directly south of the JB Well No. 2 site.

This Wetlands and Wildlife Refuge is not only the largest such natural resource in Kansas, it is also the largest such wetlands in the Great Plains and the interior United States, occupying approximately 41,000 acres. Cheyenne Bottoms provides habitat and food for mammals such as beaver, mink, muskrat; habitat and food for migrating birds and habitat and food for such threatened and endangered species as Bald Eagles, Interior Least Terns, Piping Plovers, and Whooping Cranes. The Whooping Cranes have been determined to be of such note and importance that sections of Cheyenne Bottoms are closed to visitors when the Cranes are present.

If this application is approved, any spillage of saltwater or oil related to such a disposal process would severely pollute, permanently damage the delicate balance of the fragile ecosystem of this Wildlife Refuge. In taking a stand that supports Kansas' efforts to protect its natural resources, we cannot allow this to happen by approving this application.

Additionally, in protecting these natural resources, we must also consider the polluting effects that approval of this application could have on related Barton County marshes, surface and ground waters -- tributaries, rivers, basins, and county-wide agricultural lands and livestock grazing lands in Barton County which rely on fresh surface and ground waters resources throughout this area. In terms of fresh water resources for the human citizens of Kansas, this wellsite is approximately 20 miles northeast of the city of Great Bend's water reservoirs and about 12 miles north from the Arkansas River. The Arkansas River travels about 1,469 miles from its origin near Leadville, Colorado, through Kansas and into Oklahoma to its confluence with the Mississippi River at Napoleon, Arkansas. In Kansas, on June 3, 2016, a 192-mile portion of the River was designated as a National Water Trail -- the trail beginning in Great Bend and ending at the Kansas-Oklahoma border southeast of Arkansas City.

We must also consider the fact that for the past three years, Barton County has experience at least one major earthquake per year resulting from induced seismicity related to enhanced oil recovery processes. To be specific, on Nov. 12, 2014 a 4.8M quake (centered approximately 8 miles south of Conway Springs in Sumner County, KS) shook all of Barton County and was felt throughout Kansas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas. On Nov. 15, 2015 Barton County was again among areas in the High Plains shaken by a 4.7M quake (centered 9 miles southwest of Cherokee, OK). On Feb. 13, 2016, Barton County once again was shaken by a 5.1M quake (centered 17 miles northwest of Fairview, OK). Related fracturing and resultant leakage of saltwater from such a proposed disposal well could further damage both the Cheyenne Bottoms ecosystem and the fresh water resources of Barton County listed above.

For the reasons stated above, which specifically address pollution of precious and fragile natural resources of the state of Kansas, I respectfully urge the Kansas Corporation Commission to deny the application filed by RJM Company to commence disposal of saltwater into JB Well No. 2.

Sincerely,

Susan Royd-Sykes

504 S. 6<sup>th</sup> St., Burlington, Ks 66839

[moondrummer88@gmail.com](mailto:moondrummer88@gmail.com)



cc to: RJM Company

PO Box 256, Claflin, KS

67525

KCC WICHITA

MAY 24 2018

RECEIVED