



Central Platte Natural Resources District
215 Kaufman Avenue Grand Island, Nebraska 68803
(308) 385-6282 FAX (308) 385-6285
www.cpnrd.org

January 22, 2016

Jeff Fassett, Director
Nebraska Department of Natural Resources
301 Centennial Mall South PO Box 94676
Lincoln NE 68509-4676

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DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

Dear Director Fassett,

The Central Platte Natural Resources District's board of directors approved the proposed changes to two counties within the Central Platte NRD as part of the CPNRD's Groundwater Quality Management Program. The changes include the transfer of parts of southern Hall and northern Hamilton counties, south of the Platte River, within the CPNRD from a Phase I to a Phase II Groundwater Management Area due to increasing nitrate levels.

The public hearing notice and maps will be published in the local newspapers listed below starting January 27, 2016, for three consecutive weeks, according to Nebraska law:

- The Grand Island Independent, Grand Island, NE
- Kearney Hub, Kearney, NE
- Tri-City Tribune, Cozad, NE
- Republican Non-Pareil, Central City, NE
- Columbus Telegraph, Columbus, NE

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (308) 385-6282.

Lyndon Vogt

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lyndon Vogt', is written over a white background.

General Manager

ORDER
CENTRAL PLATTE NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA

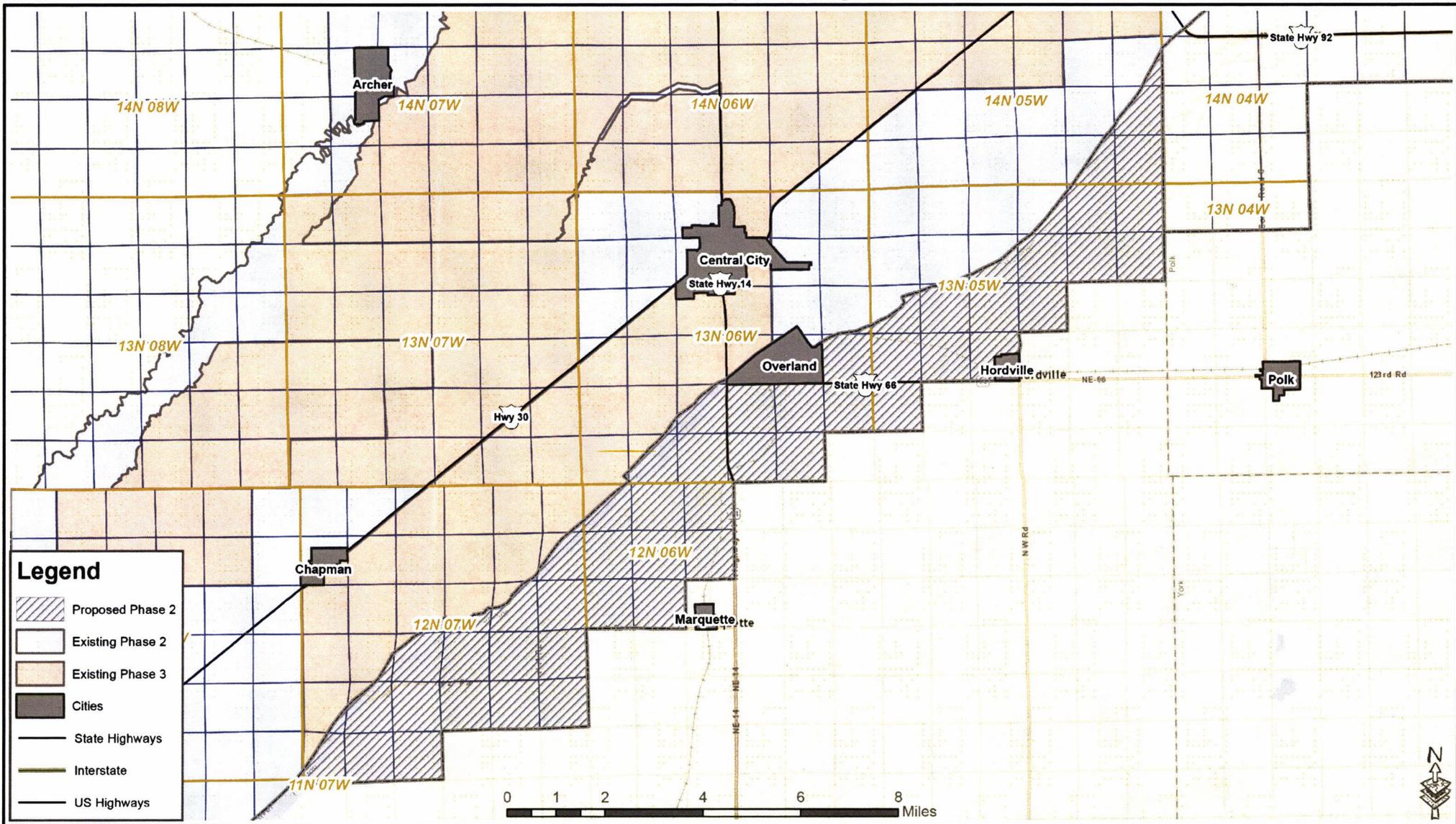
In the matter of Groundwater Quality within the Central Platte Natural Resources District:
This matter came on for consideration by the Board of Directors in conjunction with a public hearing that took place on December 17, 2015, at the Central Platte NRD (Natural Resources District) office in Grand Island, Nebraska.

The NRD has implemented a Groundwater Quality Management Program, which includes certain rules and regulations that are in accordance with the Nebraska State Statutes, to improve the quality of groundwater within the NRD. Said Program consists of a Groundwater Quality Management Plan that establishes various controls on agricultural practices and a set of rules and regulations to implement the said Plan. THE BOARD FINDS THAT:

- A. The source of drinking water for residents of the CPNRD is the groundwater underlying the District.
- B. A standard has been established by the U.S. Government to protect citizens from the potential health hazards by consuming water. In the Government's standard, a maximum level of 10 ppm (parts per million) of nitrate-nitrogen is considered safe for drinking.
- C. The level of nitrate-nitrogen in groundwater is increasing above the Phase I Ground Water Management Area of the Groundwater Quality Management Plan trigger controls in southern Hall and northern Hamilton counties, south of the Platte River, of the CPNRD.
- D. The effectiveness of CPNRD's Groundwater Quality Management Program could be strengthened by transferring parts of southern Hall and northern Hamilton counties (south of the Platte River) within the Central Platte Natural Resources District from a Phase I to a Phase II Groundwater Management Area due to increasing nitrate levels. (See maps.)
- E. CPNRD's Groundwater Quality Rules & Regulations require areas with nitrate level concentrations of 7.6 to 15 ppm to be placed in a Phase II area.
- F. Proper management techniques will be required, such as the use of soil and groundwater nitrate-nitrogen testing, the reduction of nitrogen fertilizer and groundwater applications and the timing of applications of nitrogen fertilizer and water can stabilize, reduce and prevent the increase or spread of groundwater contamination.
- G. The CPNRD has the legal authority to regulate certain activities and the legal responsibility to use those authorities to stabilize, reduce and prevent the increase or spread of groundwater contamination.
- H. The proposed changes are necessary in the CPNRD in order to prevent or eliminate health hazards. The effective date of the changes is proposed to be February 27, 2016.

PROPOSED CHANGES: The complete texts of the CPNRD's Groundwater Management Plan and the Rules and Regulations for the Implementation of the Nebraska Groundwater Management & Protection Act, including the phase area changes, are available for inspection or by calling the Central Platte NRD office (308) 385-6282 during normal weekday working hours. Maps of the proposed changes are also available at the CPNRD's website at: www.cpnrd.org.

Hamilton County Proposed Phase 2 (11 ppm avg.) Groundwater Quality Management Area



Hall County Proposed Phase 2 (7.6 ppm avg.) Groundwater Quality Management Area

