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MEMORANDUM

To: Ground Water Division
From: Lisa Lindemann, Administrator, Ground Water Division *LML*
Date: January 14, 2016
Subject: **Land application of effluent**

To streamline the permitting process and accurately portray the intended beneficial use of water, the State Engineer's Office, Ground Water Division will not require identification of lands intended for effluent application.

Policy:

Ground Water permits do not require a description of the land area where effluent will be applied.

Enlargement permits are not required to authorize effluent application to additional lands if there is no increase in water production (yield or volume).

Reservoir supply is only considered a beneficial use if fresh water is supplied from the well to a permitted reservoir facility.

Justification:

The beneficial use of water at an animal feeding operation with a waste lagoon is to provide stock water to the animals and to potentially dilute the waste for pollution control. The land application of the effluent is simply a method for waste disposal and does not require identified points of use.

Land application of effluent is dictated by nutrient loading and risks for surface runoff. As a result, the landowner inevitably expands land area for waste disposal or rotates application areas based on nutrient management plans.

Permits for feedlots or other animal feeding operations with waste lagoons should recognize the place of beneficial use of ground water. "Reservoir Supply" is only permitted if fresh water is supplied to the reservoir.

Surface Water
(307) 777-6475

Ground Water
(307) 777-6163

Board of Control
(307) 777-6178