April 4, 2003

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Mike Mathis, Chief Planning & Management Division Oklahoma Water Resources Board (405) 530-8800

Formal Proceedings for Arbuckle-Simpson Water Permits Set for April 10

A prehearing conference among official parties on the first application to take water from the Arbuckle-Simpson Aquifer has been scheduled for April 10, 2003, at 9:00 a.m. in the Fletcher Auditorium at Murray State College, Tishomingo, Oklahoma. About 200 individuals have been recognized as official parties in the case.

Judge Stewart Hunter, former District Court Judge and retired Judge of Court of Civil Appeals, has been assigned to the proceedings in place of Judge Don Barnes. The prehearing conference was originally scheduled last September in Wayne, but was postponed after Judge Barnes was involved in an automobile accident.

The Prehearing Conference is limited to legal procedural issues only. Judge Hunter has directed parties to submit documents and other items that parties intend to present as evidence for review only. However, no evidence will actually be placed into the record until the evidence hearing is held on May 21, also at the Fletcher Auditorium.

Questions about the application or prehearing conference should be directed to Mike Mathis, Chief of Planning and Management Division at the Oklahoma Water Resources Board (405) 530-8800.

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