

May 11, 2012

J.D. Strong, Executive Director
Oklahoma Water Resources Board
3800 North Classen Boulevard
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73118

Re: Letter in Support of the OWRB's Determination for the Tentative Maximum Annual Yield of the Arbuckle-Simpson Aquifer

Dear Director Strong:

The Oklahoma Chapter of the Sierra Club (herein "Sierra Club") applauds recent efforts of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board (herein "OWRB") to establish a sustainable water management model in the Arbuckle-Simpson Aquifer (herein "Aquifer"). In accordance with Senate Bill 288, the OWRB's Determination for the Tentative Maximum Annual Yield of the Arbuckle-Simpson Groundwater Basin (herein "TMAY Determination") recommends a maximum annual yield that protects the natural flows of springs and streams emanating from the Aquifer.

The Sierra Club is an ardent advocate for sound environmental policy, such as the sustainable management of our State's natural resources. The Oklahoma Legislature's foresight in passing Senate Bill 288 and the OWRB's diligence in implementing both the letter and the spirit of the law represent a momentous step in our State's responsible stewardship of its finite resources.

Additionally, the Sierra Club supports the OWRB's use of scientific data in recommending a maximum annual yield of 78,404 acre-feet per year for the Aquifer. After all, sound environmental policy is of little value if not firmly rooted in scientific thought and analysis.

The TMAY Determination is in keeping with the Sierra Club's overarching mission of exploring, preserving, and protecting the natural resources and environment of our planet. As such, the Oklahoma Chapter of the Sierra Club supports the Oklahoma Water Resources Board's Determination for the Tentative Maximum Annual Yield of the Arbuckle-Simpson Groundwater Basin.

Sincerely,

David Ocamb, Chapter Director of the Oklahoma Sierra Club