

## Statement for the Record

Julie Aultman  
c/o P.O. Box 1209  
Ardmore, OK 73402

The lawyers for the opposition to the OWRB's recommended MAY of 0.2 acre feet per year spent a lot of time at the Hearing questioning the science behind the Arbuckle-Simpson Hydrology Study. They questioned whether it was GOOD SCIENCE. Not only is it GOOD SCIENCE, it's the BEST SCIENCE. **This 6-year, multi-million dollar, multi-disciplinary study is the most comprehensive study ever completed in Oklahoma.** Top scientists from the U.S. Geological Survey, Oklahoma State University, and University of Oklahoma participated in this study. Entities such as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Oklahoma Geological Survey, Oklahoma Biological Survey, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, rural water districts and municipalities, and many landowners were involved. A technical peer review team consisting of experts from the U.S. Geological Survey, Oklahoma Geological Survey, Oklahoma State University, and the Environmental Protection Agency reviewed the scope of work and provided advice to ensure the use of sound science and appropriate methods.

The study also had the most public participation of any water study, including Oklahoma Academy Water Town Halls, Workgroups, and Public Input Hearings. It also has the highest public involvement and approval of any water study ever completed in the state. The Aggregates associations, Cattlemen's associations, and other special interest groups already gave their input throughout the process of this study and their input was considered along with that of all the other users that participated.

Beginning in 1978, MAY has been set based in part upon conclusions drawn from scientific studies completed by the OWRB. Yet, none of those studies come close to the scope,

magnitude, and detail of the Arbuckle-Simpson Hydrology Study. This is by far the best study ever completed, using the BEST SCIENCE, in the history of this state.

The reason we are all here today is that there is a problem – a reduction in flows of springs and streams, and wells going dry in and around the Arbuckle-Simpson aquifer area- and that problem prompted a grassroots effort to take action and protect the aquifer. There is no doubt that in order to protect the Arbuckle-Simpson aquifer, A CHANGE MUST BE MADE. I support OWRB's recommendation that MAY be set at 0.2 acres feet per year.