



133 W 8th St
PO Box 112
Russell KS 67665-

0112
6311

Phone: (785) 483-

Dear Community Member,

Russell and Hays have spent eight years navigating the regulatory process - the Water Transfer Act, a series of Statutes dealing with large water transfers in Kansas - to develop a municipal water supply on a jointly owned property in Edwards County. In short, the State has the final approval of the transfer, and the State must benefit by allowing the water to be transferred to Russell and Hays.

The Russell - Hays region represents a growing \$3B economy, and the Edwards County water supply development is critical to our future and beneficial to the State. The Edwards County wellfield will provide a sustainable water source to Russell and Hays for 75 years or more, depending upon growth rates. The wellfield will provide drought backup for other cities and water suppliers in the Russell/Hays area. It is critical to our future that this supply be developed.

As part of the regulatory process, there will be a Public Comment Hearing on June 20, 2023, from 6 pm – 8 pm, at the FHSU Union’s Black and Gold Room. All comments will become part of the record, and any support for Russell and Hays’ effort are greatly appreciated. Comments do not have to be lengthy or, if you prefer, can be submitted in writing.

Written comments must be identified as a Public Comment for the Hays/Russell Water Transfer Application, OAH No. 23AG0023 AG, and may be mailed to:

Water Transfer Hearing Panel
c/o Chief Engineer – Division of Water Resources
Kansas Department of Agriculture
1320 Research Park Dr.
Manhattan, KS 66502

Written comments must be received by June 26, 2023.

We need your input. The region will only continue to grow and thrive with this water. All persons and entities who depend on the region’s success are asked to record their support for the project. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions or want to discuss them further.

Sincerely,

Jim A. Cross
Mayor