

REAP Water Resources Committee 2009 Work Plan

Adopted December 8, 2008

Water Resources Committee Work

- I. *Serve as a regional voice on behalf of the members before federal, state, regional and local agencies and organize member involvement in the activities of those agencies and engage in legislative activities when appropriate.*
 1. Support the Municipal Utility Growth Issues Committee in seeking an amicable solution for municipalities and rural water districts, including education and potential action on the regional, state and national level.
 2. Encourage the Kansas Water Authority to see that the State Water Plan Fund is adequately funded and a balance between urban and rural priorities is achieved.
 3. Work with the Division of Water Resources, Kansas Department of Agriculture, to ensure municipalities are not limited by regulations pertaining to acquiring water rights that would impede a community's ability to grow.
 4. Serve as a liaison to the REAP Legislative Committee on issues the Water Resources Committee recommends as REAP legislative priorities.

- II. *Serve as a networking forum and regional conduit for dissemination to members of information and education regarding the various activities, programs, funding and initiatives as to the various federal, state, regional and local agencies involved in water quality and supply issues in the South Central Kansas region.*
 1. Provide a forum for regional water issues through regular meetings of the Water Resources Committee and Technical Subcommittee, and establishment of special committees as needed.
 2. Monitor the activities of federal, state, regional, and local agencies affecting water supply and water quality in the region and keep members advised of relevant issues and partnership opportunities
 3. Encourage additional communities to join the Water Resources Committee through communication and invitation to committee meetings, conferences and events.

- III. *Develop a regional water plan:*
 1. Work with the Kansas Water Office, Lower Arkansas and Walnut Basin Advisory Committees to develop a comprehensive regional watershed based plan to manage urbanization and minimize impacts on water resources in the area.

- IV. *Organize and coordinate collaborative efforts on regional issues of water quality and water supply.*
 1. Conduct ongoing educational forums including a regional water conference.
 2. Identify regional issues of water supply and water quality that call for collaboration

- V. *Develop or organize informational resources for member water utility operations.*
 1. Provide education on water reuse and water conservation initiatives.
 2. Work with state agencies to facilitate hosting a database of regional water studies.
 3. Distribute and update, as appropriate, the water supply and demand analysis to identify communities that are projected to have future water deficits and invite them to participate in the Committee.