

City of El Dorado, Kansas

Water Feasibility Study Underway

El Dorado Lake is an important resource to the El Dorado community and region. The 8400-acre lake was completed by the US Army Corps of Engineers in 1981 and holds approximately 50 billion gallons of water. The lake is the source of El Dorado's drinking water. El Dorado's citizens, businesses and institutions use approximately ½ billion gallons of water per year and other regional customers use 2.5 billion gallons per year. The lake also serves as an important recreational destination for boating and fishing.

The City of El Dorado does not use all of the water that is available for drinking water supply. The City hired Black & Veatch Corporation to determine how much water is available for sale. El Dorado owns 44 billion gallons of the 50 billion gallons of water storage in the lake. Under consideration is whether El Dorado could sell more water, reserving the rest of the water for current customers and the citizens of El Dorado. The City Commission will consider the lake's ecosystem, water levels for fishing and boating as well as providing a sustainable water supply in normal and drought conditions. The study will be completed in two phases. Phase I of the study is expected to be completed by October 2011 and will not exceed \$75,000.

Does El Dorado already sell water to other cities or water utilities?

Yes. El Dorado has provided ½ billion gallons of treated water and 2 billion gallons per year of untreated water to other cities and utilities for many years. Customers that purchase water from El Dorado include: City of Augusta, City of Potwin, City of White Water, Public Whole Sale District Eight, Rural Water Districts 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 (includes cities such as Cassidy, Douglas and Towanda).

Will there be enough water for El Dorado? What about the impact on El Dorado Lake?

The El Dorado City Commission wants to make sure that there is adequate water for El Dorado during normal and drought conditions. The City Commission will also consider the lake ecosystem, boating, and fishing before making a decision.

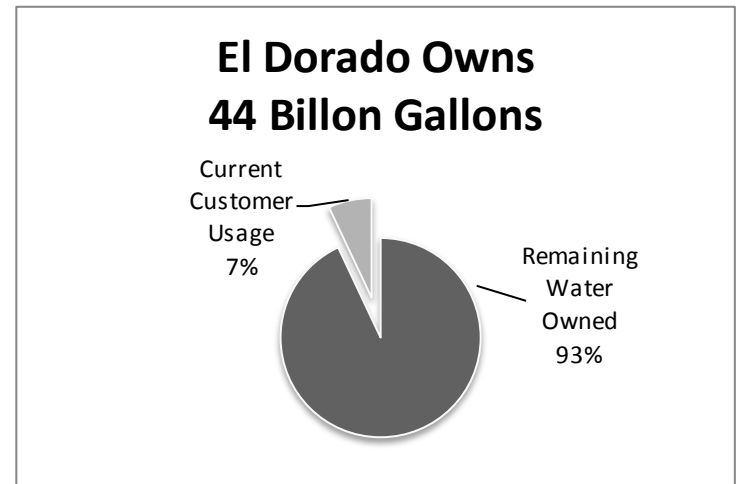
Is there any benefit to El Dorado for providing water to regional customers?

Yes. By working regionally to distribute water resources, El Dorado will benefit from the revenue produced by that distribution. The revenues may be used to invest in the water system that serves El Dorado residents and businesses, and/or to make improvements in El Dorado and at El Dorado Lake.

Who will make the decision about selling more water? How can I get involved?

The El Dorado City Commission will make the final decision about whether to sell more water to outside city customers. Formal public input will be taken at future Commission meetings. As more information is available, it will be posted on the city's website www.eldoks.com. For more information, please contact:

Kurt Bookout, Director of Utilities, 316-322-4980 or wildcat@eldoks.com.



El Dorado owns approximately 44 billion gallons of the 50 billion gallons of water storage in El Dorado lake. Current water usage is 3 billion gallons per year or 7%. The City is considering selling more water to regional customers. The lake is a renewable resource and water levels are replenished with each rainfall.



EL DORADO

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