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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Little Blue Natural Resources District will hold a public hearing at the Davenport Community Center, 100 South Linden Ave., Davenport, NE on Tuesday, May 29, 2018 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 pm. The purpose of the hearing is to provide information and receive testimony on proposed amendments to Groundwater Management Rules and Regulations. Key changes proposed include:

- Water Quantity - establish new groundwater quantity trigger of one foot (1') below 2016 spring water levels
- Establishment of allocation protocol for agricultural producers – the allocation would be sixty inches (60") over a five-year allocation period, with a one-time five-inch (5") account balance per certified irrigate acre granted at the beginning of the first allocation period.
- Carry-over of unused allocation up to eight inches (8") allowed
- A combining of allocations could occur when tracts are under the same ownership, adjacent and are served by a joint common irrigation system
- Suspension of allocation would occur when water levels rise to three feet (3') above the allocation trigger level.
- Water quality – one level of management eliminated and controls are made more uniform across sub-areas
- No fall fertilization of sandy lands
- Soil sampling is required district-wide; one sample required per 80 acres of corn, sorghum or forage sorghum cropland.

The hearing will also consider Rules and Regulations for Enforcement of the Groundwater Management and Protection Act – Irrigation Runoff Controls. Said rules describe the procedural requirements for filing a claim for improper irrigation runoff and the process to remedy such violations according to state law.

This will be an open format public hearing with opportunities to learn more about the proposed controls and ask questions, and provide oral or written testimony. A copy of the complete proposed Rules and Regulations is available from the Little Blue NRD at 1 (402) 364-2145, on the District's website at www.littlebluenrd.org, or by visiting the office located in Davenport, NE. Handicapped individuals requiring physical or sensory accommodations to participate in the hearing should notify the District Office at least two days in advance of the hearing.