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MILES AND PATRICIA NELSON
 43793 E PAUL LAKE DRIVE
 PERHAM MN 56573

Bureau of Reclamation
 PO Box 1017
 Bismarck ND 58502-1017

Re: Red River Valley Water Supply Project

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This letter is in response to the meeting held in Perham recently regarding the above referenced matter. We understand your plight and sympathize with the possibility of lack of water if there is a drought. We do have a few questions and concerns of course.

1. We would like to know who is on the board making these decisions. Are there advocates representing Minnesota as well as North Dakota?
2. Has the Minnesota government been contacted in regard to this matter? We assume that it has but thus far have not been contacted by any Minnesota representative.
3. Who has control of deciding when we are "in a drought" and how much water to pump out?
4. Has the possibility of storing water from the Spring thaw been looked into? If so, what were the results?
5. Will North Dakota follow the same regulations as Minnesota when we are asked to conserve our water? Will North Dakota be required to run their irrigators on "off-peak" times like we are in Minnesota?
6. We assume that if our area is used for this purpose, you will need to have water running through the pipes at all times to keep them clean. How much water is going to be used and who will determine this amount?
7. Our area is predicted to grow quite a lot in the very near future. How will 108 wells affect our growth and the water needed for such growth?
8. Who will be required to pay for the costs of maintaining the pipeline or anything else required in regard to this project?
9. Why doesn't North Dakota let water out of Devil's Lake into the Sheyenne River for Fargo?

These are just a few of the questions that we feel should be completely explored and answered

prior to any decisions being made to use water in our area. From the information we have been provided, we do not believe that enough research has been done to make a decision on which area you plan to obtain water.

We know that there have been some hard feelings with regard to hunting privileges for Minnesotans wanting to hunt in North Dakota. It should not be a factor in this matter, unfortunately, it comes into the fact the North Dakota wants something from Minnesota for "free" and yet has made things very difficult for Minnesotans when they want to use some of North Dakotas resources. Many North Dakotans use our lakes for summer activities and use our land for hunting but frown upon Minnesotans using their resources.

Minnesota is also required to pay for coal received from North Dakota and are now asking us to "give" them another of our resources. I think our politicians need to get more involved in this issue before we once again are "giving" our resources away.

Sincerely,

Miles and Patty Nelson