

TESTIMONY - RED RIVER VALLEY WATER SUPPLY PROJECT

**Gordon Blixt
2271 162 Ave SE
Gardner, ND 58036**

My name is Gordon Blixt and I am on the Board of Directors of Cass Rural Water District (CRWD), headquartered in Kindred, ND. I am here to testify in support of the Preferred Alternative for the Red River Valley Water Supply Project.

I have lived, farmed and worked in the Red River Valley most of my life. I have seen the damage that drought can have to this area. We have the ability to build a project that will address the water supply needs of this part of North Dakota well into the future. The economic stability of this region depends, in large part, on securing a dependable water supply. Consequently, I support the preferred alternative for the following reasons.

- 1. The project can provide an adequate supply of supplemental water to Eastern North Dakota during periods of drought.**
- 2. Negative environmental impacts are small.**
- 3. During a drought the project will provide much needed flows in the Red and Sheyenne Rivers which will provide environmental benefit.**
- 4. It is the most effective solution at the least cost of the alternatives that have been analyzed.**

Thank you.