

Ladies and Gentlemen

My name is Norman Haak from Oakes, ND. I live beside the James River which runs threw North Dakota and South Dakota.

I know what very little water in a river means in a dry year. I can only imagine what it would be for a city as large as Fargo and Grand Forks.

Many years the water in the Jim River is so high in bacteria that I can't use it on specialty crops like onions or cabbage without adding chlorine to bring it up to drinking water standards because the bacteria will sock into the plants and cause them to rot.

I feel the best alternative would be to bring water from the Missouri to the Sheyenne to give the relief it needs in the Red in dry years.

We don't want Minnesota water. We have water in ND which was promised to us many years ago.

When ND agreed to the Pick-Sloam Plan we were to have a million acres of irrigation. Well that has not happened. In fact- we have less irrigation now from the Pick-Sloam Plan than what was on the Missouri River before the Garrison Damn was put in. There were many irrigation acres along the bank of the Missouri before the dam.

There was a better plan before the 1986 Reformulation Act to bring water to the Red through a gravity system but that is past and never will be. We lost a lot in 1986 because of bad information. I hope that won't happen this time.

In 1946 the world's first computer was introduced at the University of Pennsylvania. It filled a room 30 ft. by 50 ft., it weighed 50 ton. Today we can do the same thing with my pocket calculator. Time has a way of changing things. Lets not make mistake this time like in '86 because some people don't understand the fact- the water going to Canada will be better with Missouri River water then they would have now on a dry year.