

NORTH DAKOTA RURAL WATER SYSTEMS ASSOCIATION

2718 Gateway Avenue #201
Bismarck, ND 58503
Phone: 701-258-9249
FAX: 701-258-5002
E-mail: ndr@ndrw.org
www.ndrw.org



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To: Whom it May Concern
From: Melody Kruckenberg, CEO *mk*
Date: February 1, 2006
Re: Red River Valley Water Supply Project

My name is Melody Kruckenberg and I am the CEO of the North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association, located in Bismarck.

I was unable to personally attend the hearing in Bismarck so would like to offer my written support for the GDU Import to the Sheyenne River, which is North Dakota's preferred alternative.

The economic impact of a severe drought in the Red River Valley, if a reliable source of water is not secured, would be devastating to the entire state – not just the Red River Valley since over 42% of our population resides there and 52% of our sales and use taxes are derived from the 13 counties located in the Red River Valley.

The Missouri River is North Dakota's greatest resource and could be put to use for the entire state. The impact to the Missouri River would be minimal since this project is a supplemental water supply project and will only take water from the Missouri River during a time of severe drought.

The GDU Import to the Sheyenne River Alternative does not have any significant negative environmental impacts and is the least expensive of the alternatives that have been seriously considered.

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