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**From:** RRVWSPmail RRVWSPmail  
**To:** Micki Weimerskirch  
**Date:** 3/20/2006 2:11:54 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Public Comment for RRVWSP EIS

Micki,

Please log in this comment on the Red River Valley Water Supply Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement and distribute it to team members.

Thanks,

Signe

>>> "Adam M. Kennedy" <kenna@pdx.edu> 3/16/2006 6:22:05 PM >>>  
The RRV DEIS is an attempt to abate the impacts of climate variability and climate change on the municipal water supply of the Red River Valley of North Dakota. While its surface water section results in a cursory evaluation of historic water supply conditions and modeled population and water demand projections, it is based on the assumption that future streamflow conditions will respond similarly to future climate regimes. The study does not clearly consider large-scale climate variability, changes in land use and land cover, the timing of peak seasonal snowmelt, decadal scale patterns of soil moisture, and evapotranspiration rates in response to variation in atmospheric composition. All of which are necessary to characterize the effectiveness of streamflow to supply water demand. A more appropriate evaluation of future water supply scenarios would incorporate the response of Red River Valley and the Missouri basin hydrology to changing climate conditions, and then identify which alternative would be most appropriate based on both projected streamflow conditions and projected population and water supply.

Furthermore, an adaptive management plan needs to be incorporated into this DEIS as mitigation to changing climate so that water resource managers have the necessary tools and authority to override agreements put into place by the Final EIS as the best available technology and conservation practices advance.

Without the addition of projected hydrologic variables, it is difficult to understand how future streamflows may respond to future climate variation and ultimately a 10-year drought or wet cycle. Additional climate simulations and development of an adaptive management mitigation plan should preclude a decision regarding selection of the best Project alternative.

Sincerely,

Adam M. Kennedy  
Portland State University

**CC:** Elizabeth McPhillips