



NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT of HEALTH

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION
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PROJECT

CONTROL NO.

FOLDER I.D.

March 23, 2007

Red River Valley Water Supply Project
Attn: Michael J. Ryan
Bureau of Reclamation
P.O. Box 1017
Bismarck, ND 58502-1017

Dear Mr. Ryan:

The North Dakota Department of Health (department) has completed its review of the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Red River Valley Water Supply Project.

We agree with the selection of the GDU Import to the Sheyenne River as the preferred alternative. This alternative delineates the best scenario to achieve a sustainable water supply for the water quality and quantity needs of the Red River Valley. In addition, it will enhance aquatic ecosystem health by supplying supplemental flows to the Sheyenne River and Red River.

This department endorses the project sponsor's commitment to establish an Impact Mitigation Team. Complex projects necessitate this type of oversight authority to ensure compliance with a myriad of rules and regulations. We suggest that the Impact Mitigation Team develop an adaptive management plan. This adaptive management plan would identify procedures for responding to the complex and changing conditions of the river.

The document contains a few items that need correction and/or clarification.

Page 4-62 and 4-66; Figure 4.32 and Figure 4.37.

The interim guideline of 0.1 mg/L for total phosphorus was removed from the "Standards of Quality for Waters of the State" January 2007. This department is in the process of developing a nutrient criteria plan. The plan will delineate the approach and methods the department will utilize in establishing numeric nutrient criteria.

Page 5-11. Nationwide permits issued by the Corps of Engineers must have Section 401 Water Quality Certification. The Department of Health has pre-issued water quality certification with conditions for many nationwide permits. There are several nationwide permits that have threshold limits established for pre-certification and a few nationwide permits are denied water quality certification pending further review.

Mr. Michael J. Ryan

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March 23, 2007

We welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss any of these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. David Glatt". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

L. David Glatt, P.E., Chief
Environmental Health Section

LDG/MTS:cc

cc: Dr. Dwelle, State Health Officer