



NEWS RELEASE

North Dakota State Water Commission

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The North Dakota State Water Commission recognizes progress in the Final Environmental Document for the Northwest Area Water Supply Project

The State Water Commission recognizes an important step forward for the Northwest Area Water Supply (NAWS) project today with the release of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement from the US Bureau of Reclamation.

"The water supply needs within the north central region of our state are great and are well documented within this report," noted State Engineer Todd Sando. "Once a Record of Decision is issued, which could be next month, we will have a path forward for this important project."

The report states that the preferred alternative has changed from the draft report. The final report recommends to the Reclamation's Great Plains Regional Director that a conventional treatment plant with filtration be constructed south of the Continental Divide. This level of treatment will provide flexibility to address long-term Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) standards to provide a safe and reliable drinking water supply to this region, while providing additional benefits for biota treatment.

The Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement includes responses to public comments received on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement. The report can be downloaded at www.usbr.gov/gp/dkao.