

March 8, 2021

House Agriculture Chairman Johnson,

Good morning Chairman Johnson and members of the House Agriculture Committee. For the Record I am Levi Otis, Registered Lobbyist 370 for Ellingson Water Management. A family-owned water management contractor that operates here in North Dakota, employs about 70 North Dakotans across the state, and another sum around the United States.

My testimony has changed quite a bit from the first time that I saw it. I am happy to hear that it has morphed into a study and I think that this study should be required. I believe that along with legislators and members of the state water commission, Farmers, water board attorneys, absentee landowners, and industry representatives should also be invited to participate so that we can get this right. I would be happy to give any recommendations if asked.

We have tremendous opportunity to improve the soils, water, and infrastructure in this state, and 2208 will be a base line component. If you would like to hear more about these, I would yield to answer any questions.

Thank you again for the opportunity to contribute to your committee.