

Testimony by Justin Johnson
Civil Technician for Richland County Water Resource District


To Senate Agriculture Committee
In Support of HB 1437

North Dakota Legislature
67th Legislative Assembly
Bismarck, North Dakota
March 11, 2021

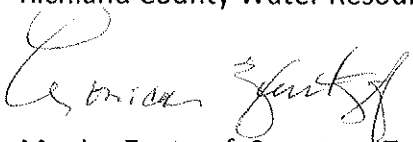
Chairman Luick, Vice-Chair Myrdal, and Members of the Committee, on behalf of the Richland County Water Resource District, I am writing in support of HB 1437. HB 1437 is the result of Ellingson Companies, Representative Schreiber-Beck, and Water Resource District Representatives working together to make Subsurface Water Management permitting less cumbersome. We believe the current subsurface water management law which was implemented four years ago has caused an unnecessary and unintended large workload for Water Resource offices, Applicants, and also other county offices.

HB 1437 is a combined effort to streamline the application process for both the Water Resource Districts and the Applicants. Four years ago, the parties involved in writing HB 1437 were on opposing sides, but they have now come together and compromised to produce HB 1437. It was a long, well thought-out process that took months and many meetings to complete.

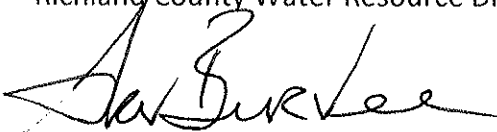
We respectfully urge a "Do Pass" on HB 1437 and thank you for your time and consideration of my testimony.



Justin Johnson, Civil Technician
Richland County Water Resource District



Monica Zentgraf, Secretary-Treasurer
Richland County Water Resource District



Arv Burvee, Chairman
Richland County Water Resource District