

March 22, 2021

Itemized Changes Requested By The Water Commission To House Recommendations
Included In Engrossed House Bill 1020

Section 6. Amendment
61-02-79 Bank of North Dakota – Line of Credit

Suggested Changes (Page 4, Lines 8-11):

The state water commission may access the line of credit, as necessary, to provide funding as authorized by the legislative assembly for the northwest area water supply project ~~water supply projects~~ approved before June 30, 2023, and ~~flood control projects that have approval for funding before June 30, 2023.~~

Supporting Comments:

During the 2019-2021 interim, there were questions within the water community as to the intended purpose for the line of credit. Following the 2019 Legislative Assembly, Senate Bill 2020 included similar language to what is currently in Engrossed House Bill 1020 – generally stating that the line of credit is for water supply and flood control projects. To provide clarity, a letter was issued to the Water Commission from Legislative leadership in July 2020 specifying that the line of credit was put in place in support of the Northwest Area Water Supply project. To avoid uncertainty, and to make sure the wishes of the Legislature are made clear, we respectfully request the above change.

Section 8. Pilot Project – Basinwide Water Plan Implementation

Suggested Changes (Page 5, Lines 14-15):

The cooperative agreement must include the amount of funding the state water commission will provide, ~~the applicable cost-share requirements,~~

Supporting Comments:

Page 5, Line 7 specifies that “These funds are not subject to state water commission cost-share policies.” We respectfully request the above referenced change to exempt sponsors from policy if that is the intent of the Legislature.