

**Testimony of  
Kenny Rogers, NAWS Supporter  
HB 1218 NAWS Authority  
House Energy and Natural Resources Committee  
Bismarck, North Dakota – January 19, 2023**

Representative Porter and members of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 1218, the creation of a Northwest Area Water Supply (NAWS) authority. I am Kenny Rogers, a long-time supporter of the NAWS Project and I have some thoughts on what I would like to see in HB1218:

1. The NAWS project would be owned by the state of North Dakota
2. The NAWS authority would consist of 3 representatives from the City of Minot, 1 representative each from the rural water districts of ASWUD, North Prairie Rural Water District and the Upper Souris Rural Water District, 1 representative from the ND Department of Water Resources and 2 representatives from the other towns served by NAWS. Two non-voting members; 1 from Garrison Diversion and 1 from the Turtle Mountain Tribe. Meetings shall take place monthly.
3. The NAWS Project will be operated and maintained by the City of Minot with the managers of the 3 rural water systems (a team approach). After completion of the project, the engineering services will be provided under the city of Minot and the 3 rural water systems. If NAWS is expanded in the future, it would include engineering services from the ND Department of Water Resources.

4. A REM fund will be established between the ND Department of Water Resources and the NAWS authority.

I believe this would be the most effective operating system to provide the NAWS customers with the most efficient system and the most economical water rates.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony.