

***Original Process for Obtaining Southwest Pipeline Water***

1. 1981 - State Water Commission started a preliminary engineering investigation for the Southwest Pipeline Project
2. 1983 - started a sign up for cities, and by 1985, there were 19 cities that had signed contracts
3. Construction began in 1986
4. Dickinson received water in 1991
5. Beach received water in 2005

***New Cities Process for Northwest Area Water Supply Project  
(must not be an existing rural water user)***

1. Request contract from the State Water Commission
2. The State Water Commission does a capacity evaluation
3. If no capacity remains, deny or consider project expansion
4. If capacity remains, hookup date is estimated, but not guaranteed - built when funds are available, and schedule (dependent on existing construction schedule - which could be years)
5. Home rule cities do not need an election, but other cities must have a city election to approve contract
6. For NAWWS, all existing users must approve new users because of capacity limits and Minot's 35 percent
7. State Water Commission approval
8. Sign contract

### ***Process for Drain Construction or Modification***

1. Water resource board (WRB) decides to pursue the project
2. WRB hires an engineer to prepare a preliminary design, determine watershed area, and cost estimate
3. Send study with an actual cost share request to State Water Commission (SWC)
4. SWC approves, or denies, with conditions for permits and other items
5. WRB may have an assessment vote on project
6. Permits - likely runs concurrent with funding request:

1) **State Engineer (SE) drain permit:**

If the SE determines the drain is not of statewide significance (14 - 80 days):

- a) WRB reviews and may hold a meeting
- b) WRB considers specifications
- c) WRB approves, or denies (up to 60 days) - WRB may require downstream easements)
- d) WRB sends copy to SE for information

If the SE determines the drain is of statewide significance (120 days):

- a) Hearing required (advertise 2 weeks in county newspaper) - last publication must be 5-15 days before hearing
- b) All documentary information the applicant plans to present at the hearing must be available for review (14 days)
- c) Written notice to State Game and Fish Department, State Engineer, State Department of Transportation, State Department of Health, affected water resource districts and county commissions, and downstream landowners (20 days)
- d) Hearing held
- e) WRB considers specific factors (easements are one factor) and all comments
- f) WRB approves, or denies application. If approved, sends to SE (up to 60 days)
- g) SE considers all comments and specific factors (up to 30 days)
- h) SE can approve, suggest modifications, deny

2) **Corps of Engineers 404 Permit:** (60 days to 10 years)

7. Construction
8. SWC reimburses 45 percent of construction costs