#### **The Promise of Water Continues**





PEOPLE AND BUSINESS SUCCEEDING WITH QUALITY WATER



# Our lives and Freshour livelihoods depend upon it every day.

WATER



Water is essential for expanding current industries and attracting new enterprises.

Economic development is closely tied to an adequate quantity of quality water.



Residents of southwest North Dakota battled collapsing wells, inadequate water quality and supply;



sometimes sacrificing their health in the process of trying to maintain their livelihoods.

# **Proving the Need**



They shared their critical water needs with state and national elected officials and other key decision makers.

Here are their stories...

# The Smiths Beach, ND

Life before rural water...
"You can't imagine what it feels like

ou can't imagine what it feels like to hear the spigot run dry after a long day of harvesting or seeding. All I want to do is take a hot shower and go to bed. I don't feel like hauling water, but that's exactly what I have to do...



#### Life after rural water...

...the cost of pipeline water doesn't compare to the cost of hauling water. We love the pipeline water."

**Andrew Smith Family** 

# The Gerhardts Flasher, ND



drink our well water for health reasons. Our well is unable to pump fast enough to keep up with the demand from our 200 head of cattle, so we had to divide the cattle and move some to other pastures."



Life after rural water...
"It's wonderful having pipeline water! All of my fixtures have been replaced and my walls look cleaner. Our lives have changed entirely since getting rural water. Thank you."

**Delores Gerhardt** 







#### 1978

The Southwest Area Water Supply Study (SAWS)
 was submitted to State Water Commission (SWC)
 December 8, 1978

#### 1979

In the 1979 Legislative Assembly, West River
 Legislators authorized governmental entities to
 conduct elections to decide whether or not a "West
 River Water Supply District" with authority to levy up
 to one mill should be created



#### 1980

In the fall of 1980, the West River Water Supply
 Board and the Southwest Water Cooperative
 Board of Directors developed a report outlining a pipeline delivery system from Lake Sakakawea to Dickinson and surrounding area



 The SWC termed the 47<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly in 1981 the body "that may be remembered as the beginning of a new

water management and development period"

 SB2338 stipulated that General Fund monies appropriated for design of the southwest area water facility be repaid to the General Fund

#### • 1982

 The state engineer was authorized to execute water service contracts with communities and legislation authorizing the Southwest Pipeline Project was considered by the SWC



- 1983
  - In the 1983 Legislative Session, three important bills were enacted:
    - SB2032 appropriated \$6 million from the Resources Trust Fund to contract the final designs, plans and specifications and authorized acquisition of rights-of-way for project facilities
    - SB2251 authorized the construction of the Southwest Pipeline Project and empowered the SWC to operate and maintain the project
    - SB2342 authorized the sale and delivery of water development bonds and provided a continued appropriation for payment of the bonds



#### 1984

 The SWC moved forward with the project using a phased-construction approach; construction fund requests were to be made to the Legislature for appropriation from the Resources Trust Fund

#### 1985

 The Legislature appropriated \$18 million from the Resources Trust Fund, \$1.5 million from the Land and Minerals Trust Fund, and \$500 thousand from the General Fund, for a total of \$20 million for construction of the Southwest Pipeline Project



- 1986
  - Congress authorized \$200 million to be used for Municipal, Rural and Industrial (MR&I) purposes throughout the state including the SWPP



#### 1988

 Approximately 63 miles of pipeline construction had been completed

#### 1989

 The SWC approved the integration of rural water systems into the SWPP, and also recognized that a formal authority should be formed to operate and manage the SWPP



#### 1990

 The North Dakota Water Users Association spearheaded a successful drive to amend the State Constitution to provide the money in the Resources Trust Fund to be appropriated only for water and energy development programs

#### • 1991

 Southwest Water Authority (SWA) was formally created to operate and maintain the SWPP



#### ...and the

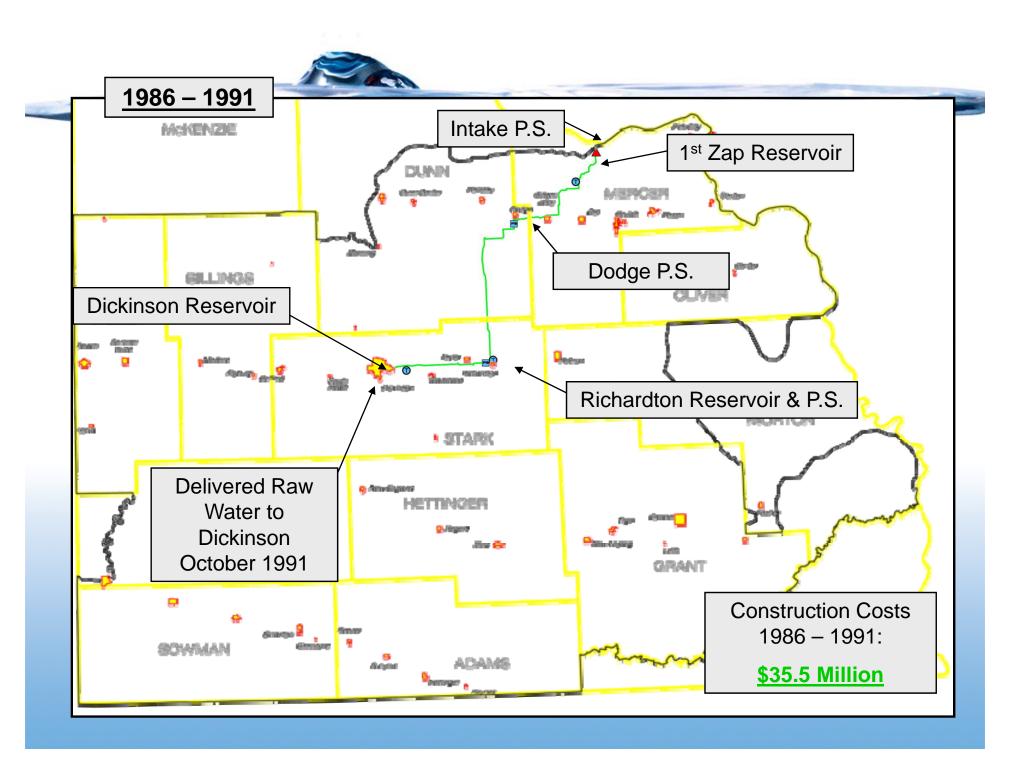
Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) was born!

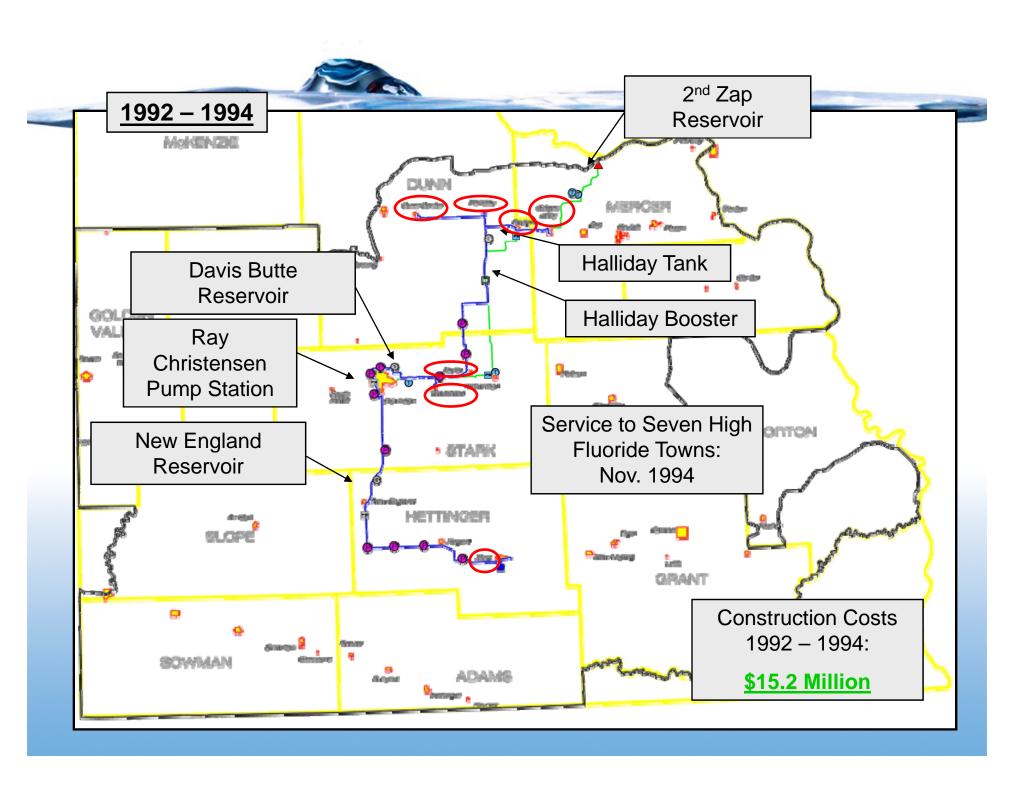


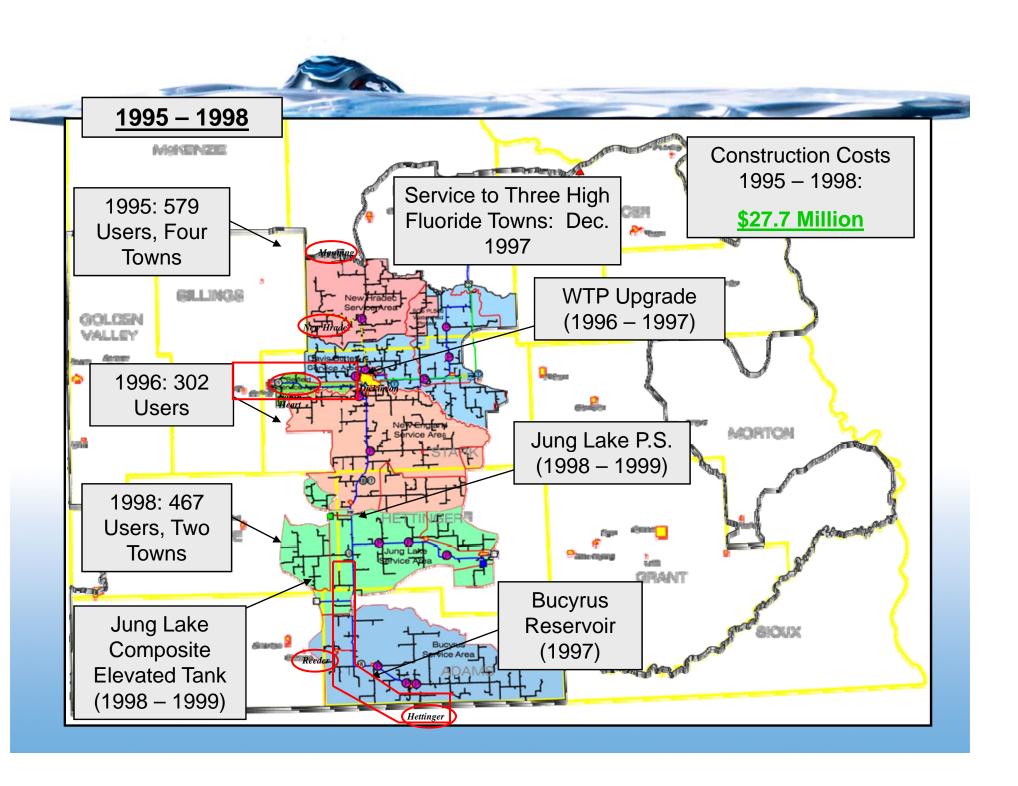
Let's follow the construction activities of the pipeline.

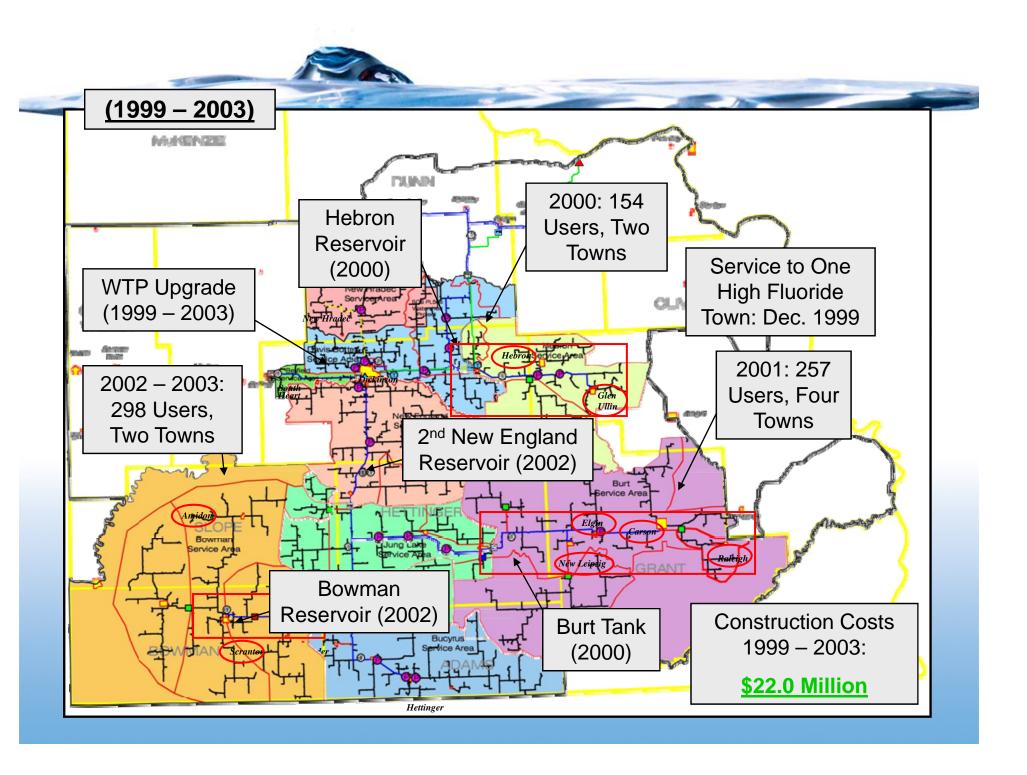


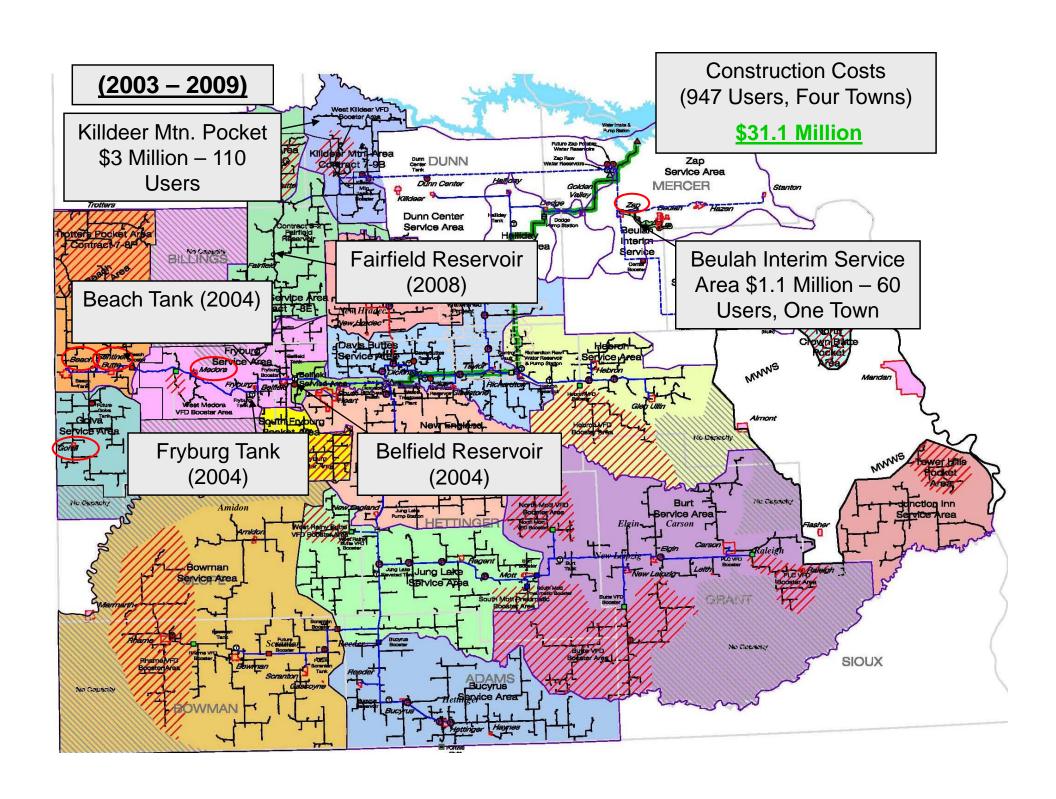
We begin in 1986...

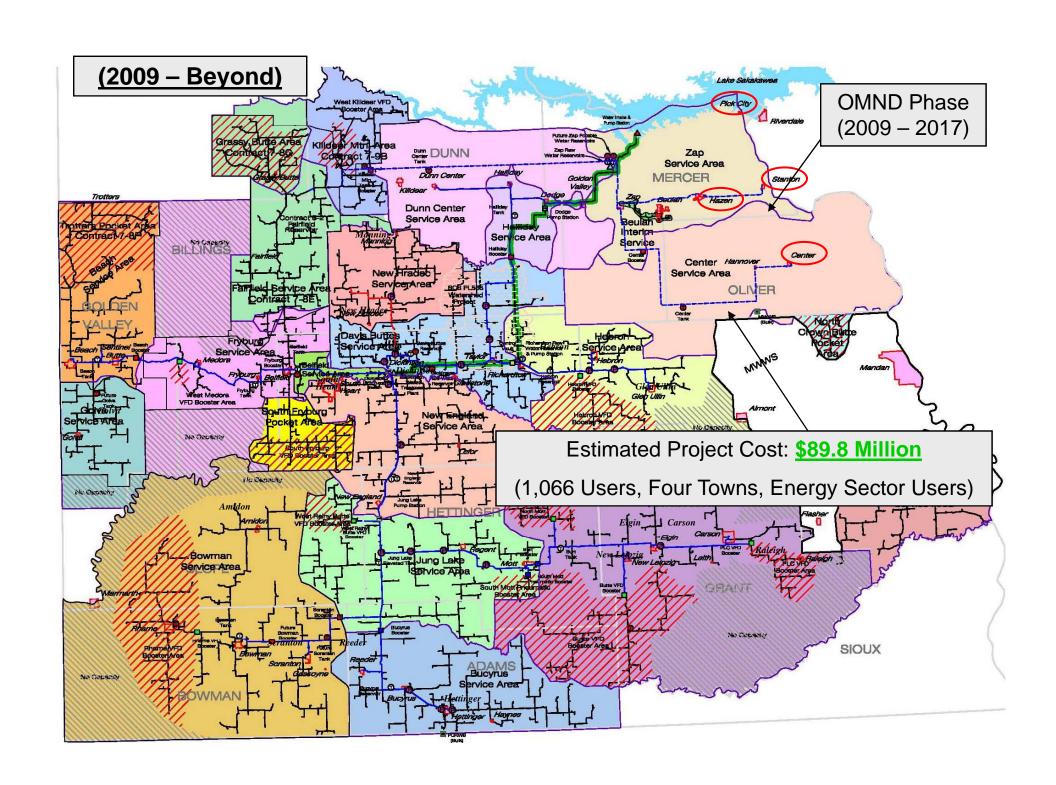


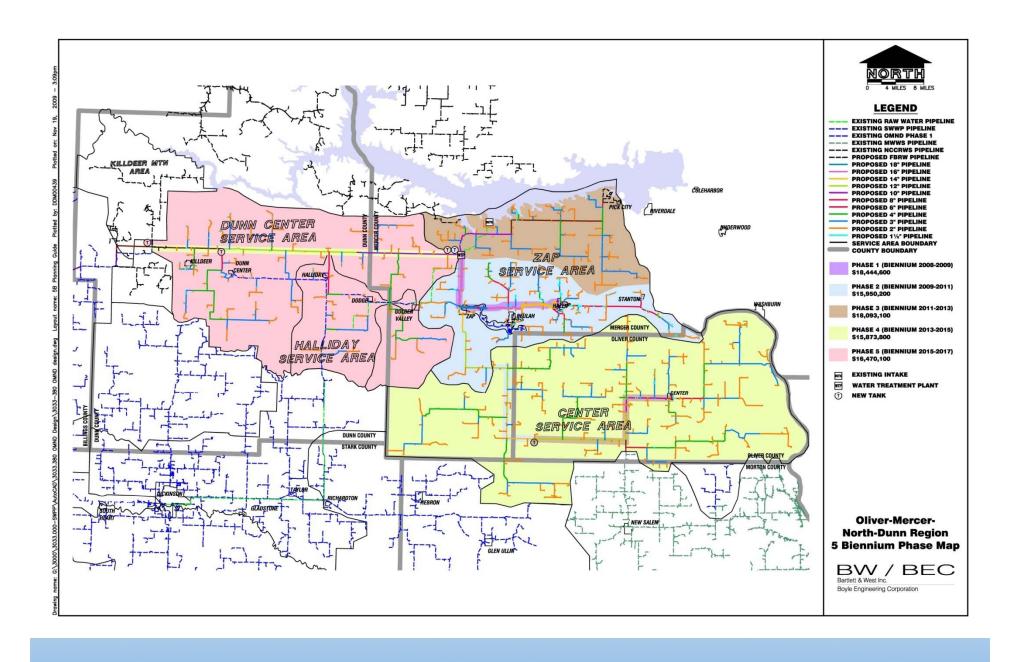














Construction this past year included providing rural service to residents in the:

North Fairfield Service Area

**Grassy Butte Service Area** 

West Killdeer Mountain Pocket in northern Dunn County

A total of 426 customers are **Served** through 396 miles of pipeline.

#### The Fairfield Reservoir

- 197,300 gallon potable water reservoir that is located northwest of Fairfield was also turned over for service in 2009
- Cleanup, seed bed preparation and grass seeding are all that remain on these contracts



- The focus for the SWPP has now turned to completion of the Oliver, Mercer, North Dunn, (OMND) Regional Service Area
- The main transmission line from north of Zap to Hazen is underway
- Bids opened on June 25, 2009



The contract was awarded on July 24, 2009, to

Titus Excavating Inc., Bismarck, North Dakota

 Construction began on September 1, 2009





#### Construction includes approximately 23 miles of

#### the following:

- 18" through 14" gasketed joint pipe
- Two pressure reducing valve vaults
- Road crossings
- Connection to Hazen's distribution system
- Installation of prefabricated meter vault and other related appurtenances.





# Water Treatment Plant for the OMND Regional Service Area

- Located approximately eight miles north of Zap
- Membrane filtration and membrane softening will be used
- Membrane procurement documents have been completed and are currently being bid
- Once awarded, final design of the water treatment plant will be completed
- It is anticipated that construction will begin in 2010

#### The Benefits of Water



With an adequate supply of quality water, ranchers no longer haul water to livestock; fathers no longer haul water for their homes;



and families no longer worry about elevated levels of sulfate, uranium, sodium, iron and manganese in their water supply.

#### The Benefits of Water



Livestock producers who utilize an adequate source of quality water in their operations note



## The Benefits of Water





In April 2008, Manager/CEO, Mary Massad, and directors, Larry Bares, Ray Bieber and Don Flynn, attended the National Rural Water Rally in Washington, D.C.

They also met with North Dakota's Congressional Delegation, members of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and USDA-Rural Development, including Agriculture Secretary Ed Schafer.





communities...

Beach

**Belfield** 

Carson

**Dickinson** 

Dodge

**Dunn Center** 

Elgin

Gladstone

Glen Ullin

Golden Valley

Golva

Halliday

Hebron

Hettinger

**Manning** 

Medora

Mott

**New England** 

**New Hradec** 

**New Leipzig** 

Reeder

Regent

Richardton

Scranton

**Sentinel Butte** 

South Heart

**Taylor** 

Zap

# Fulfilling the Promise

#### Life before rural water...

"Through the years, our water gradually got worse and worse. The change was so gradual that we didn't realize anything was wrong until our cows started acting strange and began to die...



#### Life after rural water...

...now the pipeline has arrived. It is really a blessing to have Southwest Pipeline Project water."

George Andreas, Belfield, ND

# The Bangs Killdeer, ND



#### Life before rural water...

"My family and I ranch northwest of Killdeer.

We deal with both water quality and quantity issues daily. Untreated, the water pumped from our five wells is deep-red in color, smells of sulfur and stains nearly everything it touches.

Our wells barely pump enough water to keep up with our 500 head cattle operation."

"We are so happy to see the Southwest Pipeline Project being constructed in our area."

Terrald Bang

# The Jaegers

"We have been farming and ranching in the Mercer County area since 1975. As a result of the high sodium concentration in our water, we have been advised not to consume it."



"We are thrilled to know water will be arriving soon!"

Pat Jaeger

# The Boehms Mandan, ND





"We had a short water supply and what water we did have was not good. We now have four houses receiving pipeline water."

**James Boehm** 



Project completion will become a reality with the continued support of federal, state and local governments, along with grassroots support by the individuals who need an adequate supply of quality water in southwest North Dakota.

