

**Testimony of
Garrison Diversion Conservancy District
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 Merri Mooridian, Administrative Officer for the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District.

As a supporter of the NAWS project, Garrison Diversion also supports the creation of a NAWS authority.

Garrison Diversion operates the Snake Creek Pumping Plant out of which the water intake for the NAWS project is located. Therefore, our involvement with NAWS will be ongoing. Garrison Diversion has always maintained a seat on the NAWS advisory board, but will not be receiving water from NAWS; therefore, we support the proposal for a representative of Garrison Diversion to serve as a nonvoting member of the NAWS advisory board.

Thank you for allowing my testimony in support of the creation of a NAWS authority today.