

**Senate Energy and Natural Resources
Chairman – Chairman Dale Patten
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**Testimony of Jason Sorenson
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HB 1218

Good afternoon, Chairman Patten and members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. My name is Jason Sorenson and I am the Asst. Director of Public Works for the City of Minot.

Minot is in favor of amended HB 1218 and the creation of the NAWS Authority to oversee the general operations and oversight of the NAWS system.

As you may be aware, NAWS is a complicated system with many different facets that need to be coordinated and maintained.

First, there is a biota treatment facility, with a federal interest in the construction and operations. Second, there is a municipal water plant in Minot that is owned and operated by the city of Minot. Finally, there are numerous tanks, pipelines and storage structures, which were constructed with Federal, State and Minot funds.

We feel the development of the NAWS authority is a great step forward in having an entity to coordinate and provide oversight in the operation and maintenance of these numerous facilities and capital investments.

In closing, we feel the entities are being fairly represented on this new Authority board and will provide guidance to see that safe, reliable drinking water is being provided to North Central North Dakota at a fair and cost efficient price.