

# ***BUFFALO - RED RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT***

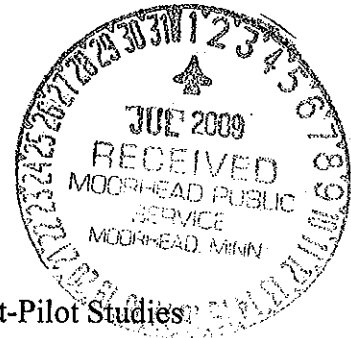
BARNESVILLE, MINNESOTA 56514

123 FRONT STREET SOUTH — P.O. BOX 341

PHONE 218 354-7710

June 30, 2009

Susan Thornton  
Legislative Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources  
State Office Building, Room 65  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1201



RE: LCCMR Proposal-Next Generation Water Supply Management-Pilot Studies  
Letter of Support for Study Regarding Buffalo Aquifer

Dear Ms. Thornton:

At our 6/22/09 meeting held in Barnesville, Clifford McLain, Water Division Manager, City of Moorhead, discussed the need for the development of an aquifer management plan and long-term water supply study for the Buffalo Aquifer, which is located within the boundaries of our Watershed District. He also discussed the proposal that the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) submitted to your office for funding the proposed pilot study.

While we currently have an abundance of water (record flooding, etc.), the Board of Managers, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District (BRRWD), agrees that it is better to be proactive than reactive in terms of our groundwater supply and quality. If funded, we hope that the results of this pilot study can be followed statewide as needed to develop regional aquifer management plans to help set priorities for the use of our State's groundwater resources.

At our referenced meeting, the Board agreed to cooperate with the City of Moorhead regarding the study, including: writing of this letter asking for your support of the pilot study; agreeing to be a member of the aquifer management planning team; offering our support for completion of the Clay County Atlas; and sharing information we currently have and are gathering regarding the Buffalo River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study, as we know the South Branch of the Buffalo River and the Buffalo Aquifer are connected. We feel the proposal that the DNR has submitted will help fill our needs regarding protection of this valuable resource. As noted in the proposal, many of our ground and surface water crosses jurisdictional boundaries, but the entire study area for the Buffalo Aquifer part of the study is within the BRRWD.

If you should have questions or comments concerning the above or the proposed project, please feel free to contact our office. If approved, the BRRWD looks forward to working with all of our various partners, regarding the development of the Buffalo Aquifer Management Plan for sustainable water management, not only for the near future, but for generations to come.

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Sincerely,

BUFFALO-RED RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

*Bruce E. Albright*

Bruce E. Albright  
Office Administrator

BEA/jj

cc: Cliff McLain, Water Division Manager, City of Moorhead, 500 Center AVE, Moorhead,  
MN 56561-0779

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