



South Dakota Rural Electric Association, Inc.  
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Friday, October 20, 2006

Ms. Rose Hargrave  
Policy Director  
CENWD-PDM  
12565 West Center Road  
Omaha, NE 68144-3869

Dear Ms. Hargrave:

On behalf of the 31 member systems of the South Dakota Rural Electric Association (SDREA), I offer brief comments on the "Proposed Framework for Establishing the Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee."

SDREA is a member services organization representing every rural electric cooperative operating in the state of South Dakota. South Dakota's rural electric cooperatives operate in every county in the state and provide power to well over one third of the state's population. As federal power customers, our member systems are keenly interested in any issues involving operation of the Missouri River dams, including recovery efforts for threatened and endangered species.

I will keep my comments very brief by referring to the letter submitted by the Mid-West Electric Consumers Association (Midwest) dated October 16, 2006 (copy enclosed). While Mid-West and SDREA may not always take identical positions on Missouri River issues, in this case Mid-West has done an excellent job of articulating our concerns with the "Proposed Framework for Establishing the Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee." Of particular concern to our members is the proposed makeup of the planning group, which from our perspective does not provide balanced representation from all project purposes. We would also echo Mid-West's concerns regarding duplication of efforts and the protracted scheduled of this three phase initiative.

We appreciate your efforts and look forward to working with you as you move forward on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Ed Anderson, Director  
Government Relations

