

Legislative Testimony on June 14, 2016

My name is Dale Anderson from the Starkweather, ND area. I have farmed in this area since 1957 (close to 60 years). My son and I operate about 7000 acres south east of Cando or south west of Starkweather which is located in the lower part of the Devil Lake basin.

First, I want you to know that I am not in favor of landowner's compensation of any kind since it would involve the Federal Government. I am in favor of keeping those pumps running and getting this lake to a controllable level. Know, we are one heavy snow winter or one rainy summer away from another disaster. With the basin being so saturated, 3 or 4 inches of rain over it would bring disastrous results with thousands of acres of good farm land flooded again.

This spring we have seeded at least 1500 acres that have been under water for 6-10 years. We have about 300 more acres that will be seeded if weather permits up to July 4th. The seeding done before it rained is all up and looks good. It sure beats the hell out of looking at water. Fish don't pay real good rent. By 2008 our farm building were surrounded by water. We had to rip raf a half a mile of the driveway to save the road.

It is not a real good feeling to walk out of the house in the morning being totally surrounded by water and hearing hundreds of water birds talking to each other. This is some of the land we seeded this year that hasn't been farmed since 2008.

We have had to go across neighbor's fields for many years. We have had to build roads through water and mud. This is something I don't need to go through a second time. We have been through the tough years and things are looking up. That's why I think we do not need any compensation. We just need some reassurance those pumps will keep running so this disaster does not happen again.

Dale Anderson

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dale Anderson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.