

*RICHLAND COUNTY  
WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT*

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## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** August 16, 2016

**TO:** Chairman Jim Schmidt and Water Topics Overview Committee

**FROM:** Chairman Don Moffet 

**RE:** **Water Resource Districts "Quick-Take" Authority**

The Richland County Water Resource District stands in full support of the Red River Joint Water Resource Board's opinion regarding water resource districts quick-take authority. This Board asks that you carefully consider the points presented to you in the Red River Joint Board's memo of August 11, 2016.

Whether it is regular eminent domain proceedings or quick-take, this Board does all it can to settle with the landowners to avoid eminent domain. This tool is used only when absolutely necessary. Without quick-take authority, projects could be delayed or lost, along with valuable funding. The limitation or outright elimination of quick-take authority for water resource districts will be devastating for water development in North Dakota.

We hope you will conclude that quick-take authority is an important and necessary tool for the water resource districts of North Dakota. Thank you for your time and work on this matter.