

Sixty-fourth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

## ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1096

Introduced by

Energy and Natural Resources Committee

(At the request of the State Engineer)

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 4 of section 61-04-01.1, sections  
2 61-04-06.2, 61-04-09, and 61-04-31, and subdivision i of subsection 2 of section 61-04.1-16 of  
3 the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the definition of domestic water use, the term and  
4 inspection of a water permit, reservation of waters, and weather modification permits.

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

6 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 4 of section 61-04-01.1 of the North Dakota  
7 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

8 4. "Domestic use" means the use of water by an individual, ~~or by at least one~~ family  
9 unit, or household; obtaining water from the same system for personal needs and for  
10 household purposes, including heating, drinking, washing, sanitary, and culinary uses;  
11 irrigation of land not exceeding five acres [2.0 hectares] in area for each family unit or  
12 household for noncommercial gardens, orchards, lawns, trees, or shrubbery; and for  
13 household pets and domestic animals kept for household sustenance and not for sale  
14 or commercial use, ~~when the water is supplied by the individual or family unit. Also-~~  
15 ~~included within this use are "domestic rural uses" which must be defined by the state-~~  
16 ~~engineer by rule.~~

17 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-04-06.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
18 amended and reenacted as follows:

19 **61-04-06.2. Terms of permit.**

20 The state engineer may issue a conditional permit for less than the amount of water  
21 requested, ~~but in no case may. Except for water permits for incorporated municipalities or rural~~  
22 water systems, the state engineer may not issue a permit for more water than can be  
23 beneficially used for the purposes stated in the application ~~except that water. Water~~ permits for  
24 incorporated municipalities or rural water systems may contain water in excess of present

1 needs if based upon reasonable projections of what may reasonably be necessary for the future  
2 water needs requirements of the municipality or the rural water system. The state engineer may  
3 require modification of the plans and specifications for the appropriation. The state engineer  
4 may issue a permit subject to fees for water use, terms, and conditions, restrictions, limitations,  
5 and termination dates the state engineer considers necessary to protect the rights of others and  
6 the public interest. Conditions and limitations so attached must be related to matters within the  
7 state engineer's jurisdiction of the state engineer; provided, however, that all. All conditions  
8 attached to any permit issued prior to before July 1, 1975, are binding upon the permittee.

9 **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-04-09 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
10 amended and reenacted as follows:

11 **61-04-09. Application to beneficial use - Inspection - Perfected water permit.**

12 On or before the date set for the application of the water to aAfter the permit's beneficial  
13 use date, or upon notice from the owner permit holder that water has been applied to a beneficial  
14 use, the state engineer shall causenotify the conditional water permit holder and inspect the  
15 works to be inspected, after due notice to the holder of the conditional water permit. Such. The  
16 inspection shall be thorough and complete, in order tomust determine the safety, efficiency, and  
17 actual capacity of the works, its safety, and efficiency. If the works are not properly and safely  
18 constructed, the state engineer may require the necessary changes to be made within such  
19 time as the state engineer deemsa reasonable and shall not issue a perfected water permit until  
20 such changes are madetime. Failure to make the changes within the time prescribed by the  
21 state engineer shall cause postponement of the permit's priority under the water permitdate to  
22 the date the changes are actually made to the satisfaction of the state engineer, and any. Any  
23 intervening application submitted prior to before the date the changes are actually made may will  
24 have the benefit of suchthe postponement of priority. When the works are found in satisfactory  
25 condition, after inspectionproperly and safely constructed and inspected, the state engineer  
26 shall issue the perfected water permit, setting forth the actual capacity of the works and suchthe  
27 limitations or conditions upon the water permit as stated in the conditional water permit as  
28 authorized by section 61-04-06.2; provided, however, that all. All conditions attached to any  
29 permit issued prior to before July 1, 1975, shall beare binding upon the permittee.

30 **SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.** Section 61-04-31 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
31 amended and reenacted as follows:

1       **61-04-31. Reservation of waters - Public hearing - Notice.**

2       1. Whenever it appears necessary to the state engineer, or when so directed by the  
3       commission, the state engineer may by regulation:

4       a. ~~Reserve~~ reserve and set aside waters for beneficial ~~utilization~~use in the future;  
5       and

6       b. ~~When sufficient information and data are lacking to allow for the making of~~  
7       ~~sound decisions, withdraw various waters of the state from additional appropriations~~  
8       ~~until such data and information are available.~~

9       2. a. ~~Prior to~~Before the adoption of a regulation under this section, the state engineer  
10       shall conduct a public hearing in each county ~~in which~~where waters relating to  
11       the regulation are located. ~~The~~At least seven days before the date set for the  
12       public hearing ~~shall be preceded by~~, a notice placed in a newspaper of general  
13       circulation must be published in the official county newspapers within each of the  
14       counties.

15       3. b. Regulations adopted hereunder shall ~~bear~~be subject to chapter 28-32.

16       2. When sufficient information or data is lacking to allow for sound decision-making on a  
17       water permit application, the state engineer may withdraw various waters of the state  
18       from additional appropriations until sufficient data or information is available. Water  
19       permit applications pending from these sources will be placed in a deferred status.

20       **SECTION 5. AMENDMENT.** Subdivision i of subsection 2 of section 61-04.1-16 of the North  
21       Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

22       i. The applicant has registered, with the North Dakota aeronautics commission, any  
23       aircraft ~~and pilots~~ intended to be used in connection with the operation.