

Dave Heineman
Governor

STATE OF NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Brian P. Dunnigan, P.E.
Acting Director

16-497
#432



November 17, 2008

IN REPLY TO:

Senator Leroy Loudon
Chairman, Natural Resources Committee
District #49 State Capitol
P.O. Box 94604
Lincoln, NE 68509-4604

Dear Senator Loudon and Committee Members:

Please include this letter into the record for the November 20, 2008, hearing on LR 377.

I am sorry that I am unable to be with you today. The change in schedule resulted in a conflict with another meeting that had previously been scheduled and which I must attend. I have asked Department staff to be in attendance to answer questions that might arise.

I want to thank the Committee for the opportunity to contribute to this legislative study. At the North Platte hearing I promised to provide to you any additional information available to me by the time of this November hearing. There are two items that I would like to report on.

The first item is in regard to earlier questions about the Department's fiscal needs and preparations for our new biennium budget. After careful review of Department obligations and priorities, and with consideration for the State's present economic climate, our requested funding for each year of the 2009-2011 biennium is the same as our budget appropriation for the current fiscal year. The Department, in coordination with the Budget Division of the Department of Administrative Services, submitted its budget request on September 15th as required by statute.

The second item to report is that I have changed the organizational structure within the Department to better meet the priority of integrated water management and interstate streams. We have changed the name of our Research and Technical Studies Division to Integrated Water Management Division, and have organized staff into teams to work on the different basins across the State. The Integrated Water Management Division is responsible for coordinating the work on integrated water management and interstate stream issues, including our modeling efforts in those areas. I have attached a new organizational chart which shows these changes.

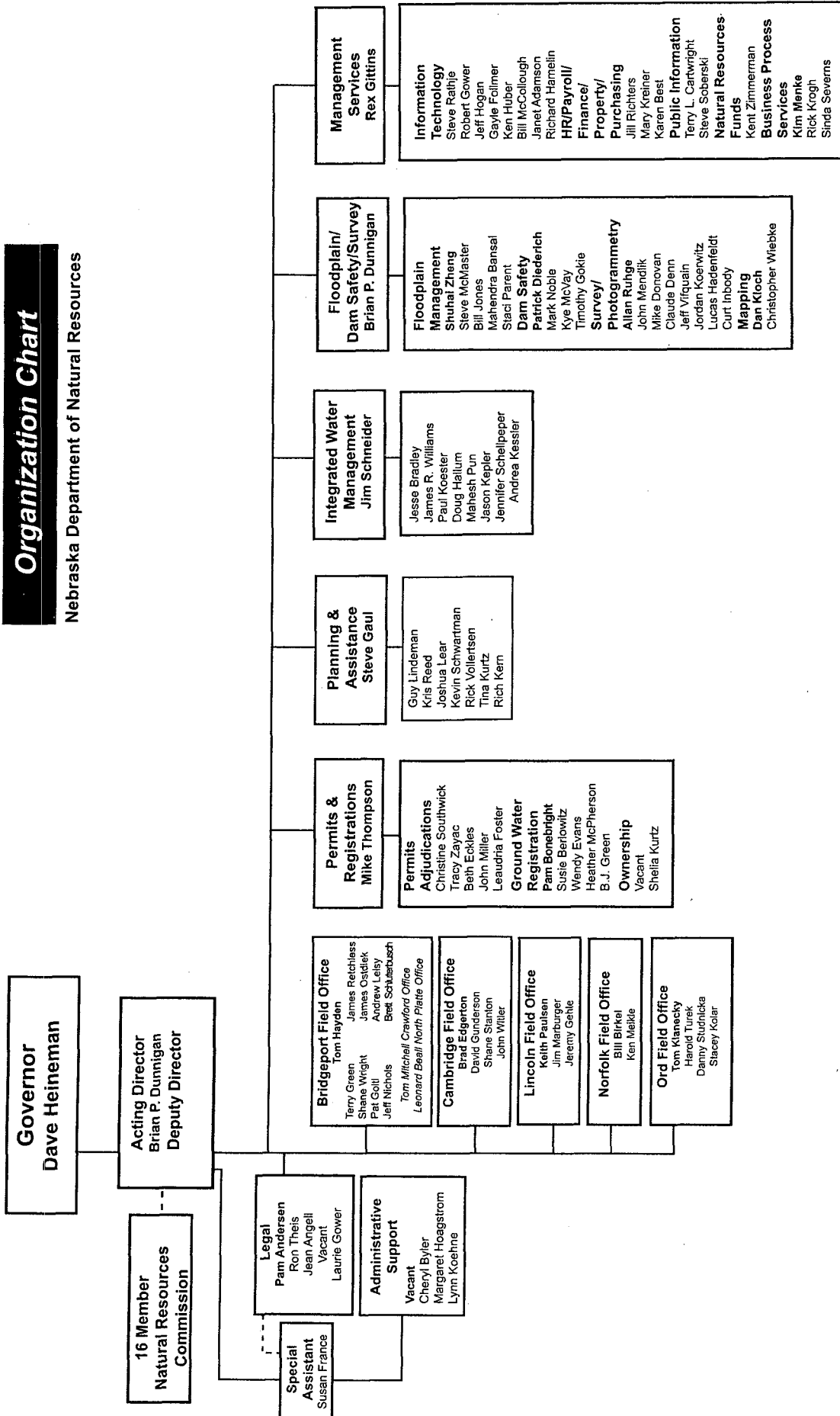
I want to sincerely thank the Committee for taking interest in the Department's available resources through LR 377.

Respectfully,

Brian Dunnigan
Acting Director

Organization Chart

Nebraska Department of Natural Resources



Nebraska
Department of Natural Resources
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 Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4676
 fiscal 11.12.08

