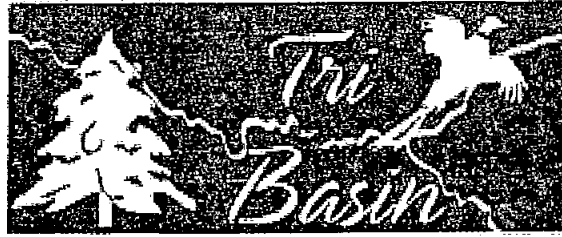


Tri-Basin NRD  
1308 Second St.  
Holdrege, NE 68949



*Natural Resources District*

**COPY** Phone: (308) 995-6688  
Toll Free: 1-877-995-6688  
Fax: (308) 995-6992  
Email: [tribasin@tribasinprd.org](mailto:tribasin@tribasinprd.org)

General Manager  
JOHN THORBURN

July 16, 2007

RECEIVED

Chairman  
TODD GARRELTS  
Holdrege, Nebraska

Ms. Ann Bleed, Director  
NE Department of Natural Resources  
POB 94676

JUL 17 2007

Vice Chairman  
DAVID NICKEL  
Kearney, Nebraska

Lincoln NE 68509-4676

DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES

Secretary  
LARRY REYNOLDS  
Lexington, Nebraska

Dear Ann:

Treasurer  
ED HARRIS  
Loomis, Nebraska

September 15, 2007 will be the third anniversary of DNR's designation of the Platte Basin west of Highway US 183 as overappropriated. The Tri-Basin NRD Board of Directors and I believe that it is unlikely that we will be able to agree on the terms of an integrated management plan for Platte Basin within this district and implement such a plan before that date. Therefore, on behalf of the Tri-Basin NRD Board, I would like to request that you agree to extend our joint integrated water management planning process for the Platte Basin for two years, as allowed by NE state statute 46-715 (1).

BRIAN BERGSTROM  
Axtell, Nebraska

HAROLD ERICKSON  
Holdrege, Nebraska

DICK HELMS  
Arapahoe, Nebraska

PHYLLIS JOHNSON  
Bertrand, Nebraska

BRADLEY LUNDEEN  
Wilcox, Nebraska

DAVID NELSON  
Upland, Nebraska

DAVID OLSEN  
Axtell, Nebraska

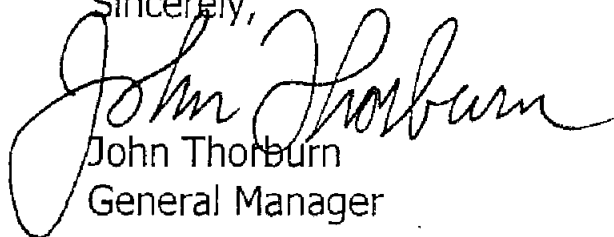
DAVID RAFFETY  
Kearney, Nebraska

RAY WINZ  
Holdrege, Nebraska

We make this request because the Upper Platte Basin NRDs and DNR are still working on the details of an integrated management plan for the overappropriated portion of the Platte Basin. This plan must be completed before we can complete our district integrated management plan for the Platte Basin to insure that the plans are consistent with each other.

Rest-assured that Tri-Basin NRD will continue to enforce its existing integrated management rules, which prohibit development of additional groundwater-irrigated land anywhere in the NRD. We will also continue to enforce our groundwater quantity management rules, which protect groundwater supplies to a degree sufficient to maintain groundwater levels at or above 1981-85 average springtime levels in the Platte and Republican Basins within the district. We believe that the rules that we have in place are sufficient to prevent stream depletions from worsening significantly during the two year extension of our planning process. Feel free to contact me if you want to discuss this request.

Sincerely,

  
John Thorburn  
General Manager

Cc: TBNRD directors  
Don Blankenau, Fennemore-Craig  
Jeff Cox, Dier, Osborn and Cox  
Don Kraus, CNPPID  
Tina Kurtz, NDNR