

From: owner-ndsu-sbare@listserv.nodak.edu on behalf of 00000f991a64ec7b-dmarc-request@LISTSERV.NODAK.EDU
To: ndsu.sbare@ndsu.edu
Cc: ljdewitz@bektel.com
Subject: RE: SBARE Input from the ND Irrigation Association
Date: Tuesday, December 28, 2021 11:24:18 AM
Attachments: [SBARE Letter Updated.pdf](#)

Please see an updated comment letter regarding SBARE priorities from the ND Irrigation Association.

Thanks,

Dani

Dani Quissell
North Dakota Irrigation Association
Phone 701-223-4615
Mobile 605-209-6021
PO Box 2254
Bismarck, ND 58502

From: Danielle Hanson
Sent: Monday, November 15, 2021 3:38 PM
To: ndsu.sbare@ndsu.edu
Cc: ljdewitz@bektel.com
Subject: SBARE Input from the ND Irrigation Association

Please see the attached input from the ND Irrigation Association.

Thank you,

Dani

Dani Hanson
ND Irrigation Association
Phone 701-223-4615
Mobile 605-209-6021
PO Box 2254
Bismarck, ND 58502



North Dakota Irrigation Association

P.O. Box 2254
Bismarck, ND 58502
701-223-4615
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Dedicated to strengthening and expanding irrigation to build and diversify our economy

December 28, 2021

State Board of Agricultural Research and Education
North Dakota State University
PO Box 6050
Fargo, ND 58108-6050

State Board of Agricultural Research and Education:

North Dakota has approximately 302,000 acres of irrigation used in the production of a variety of crops including corn and cereal grain crops, livestock forage, and high value crops such as potatoes, sugar beets, and onions. U.S. Department of Agriculture Statistics Service data show that on a state-wide basis, three to four dryland acres are needed to equal the gross returns from one irrigated acre. Irrigation provides the opportunity to grow the higher value crops where top yields and exceptional quality are necessary. High quality coupled with substantial yielding potatoes have made the French fry industry successful in the state. The acreage of onions in the state is smaller than the other crops but this crop may have an important role in the future as markets are developed. Other fruit and vegetable crops can be produced and processed in the state and the development of the markets for these crops is needed. Irrigation does and can diversify and strengthen the agricultural economy of the state. We urge the dedication of additional resources to research the opportunities for high value crops.

We are grateful for the past support of irrigation research in North Dakota and encourage continued state supported irrigation research and projects, particularly involving high-value crops, which will help to grow North Dakota's economy and diversify agriculture production in the state. The irrigation research done at the Oakes Irrigation Research Site (OIRS) and Nesson Valley Irrigation Site is critical to advancing irrigation in North Dakota. As SBARE contemplates its priorities for the upcoming biennium, the Irrigation Association would ask that irrigation research remain a top priority. The Association supports the following two requests in particular:

- At least \$400,000 in state funding to support the OIRS. This funding, coupled with funding from the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District, would help support important, ongoing, irrigation research at OIRS. The Irrigation Association supports the long-term funding plan developed by Garrison to move funding responsibilities for OIRS from Garrison to the state.
- Funding for a new facility to serve staff at the Nesson Valley Irrigation Site. This facility, which has been on the master plan since 2012, would provide much needed office and lab space, a heated shop, and conference room space to host meetings, etc.

Please feel free to reach out to Dani Quissell, Executive Director of the North Dakota Irrigation Association, at dhanson@ndwater.net with any questions.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Loren DeWitz". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Loren DeWitz
President