

# **PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM**

## **Attachment 6**

### **Appendix D**

## **Identification of the Downstream Water Users Representatives to the Governance Committee**

**December 7, 2005**

**Revised June 13, 2012**

### Downstream Water Users

The Downstream Water Users are those Nebraska surface water and groundwater users in the Platte River basin downstream of Lake McConaughy and the Western Canal headgate, and those water users upstream of Lake McConaughy who do not have federal storage contracts.

### Considerations

Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) and The Central Nebraska Public Power District (Central) are providing a significant portion of Nebraska's share of the First Increment commitments through the Environmental Account and Cottonwood Ranch and have FERC licenses and the associated ESA consultations dependent on the program.

The Natural Resource Districts along the Platte Rivers above Columbus are responsible for administration of groundwater in Nebraska and are responsible for implementing portions of the Nebraska Depletions Plan related to groundwater uses.

All representatives must consider the needs and impacts to all Nebraska ~~w~~Water ~~u~~Users when making recommendations and casting votes for decisions on program activities.

### Representatives

The Downstream Water Users will have 4 representatives (Representatives) to the Governance Committee with one vote to be cast. The Downstream Water Users will have no designated alternates with representation to consist of those representatives in attendance at a Governance Committee meeting.

The Representatives will include one from Central, one from NPPD and two from the Platte Basin NRD's. The Platte Basin NRD's consist of the South Platte NRD, The North Platte NRD, the Twin Platte NRD, the TriBasin NRD, and the Central Platte NRD.

The Representatives will be appointed by the respective organizations and serve until a new representative is designated by the organizations. Replacement Representatives must be appointed within 60 days of a vacancy occurring.

~~Representatives will be designated within 60 days of the signature of the Program documents and will be identified in a communication to the Executive Director. The pre-Program Downstream Water User representative and alternate will continue to serve on the Governance Committee until the Representatives are identified.~~

The NRD Representatives will not participate in Governance Committee discussions and decisions related to the operation of the Central and NPPD facilities (storage of water, release of water, delivery of water to customers); activities that affect hydropower generation of NPPD or Central; operations of the Environmental Account; Central's or NPPD's FERC Licenses; activities related to ESA compliance of Central and NPPD (habitat development; sediment, monitoring, etc.); activities involving the use of Central's or NPPD's property and/or facilities.

#### Advisory Committee

An Advisory Committee will be established to provide input from the Downstream Water Users to their Representatives and a forum in which the Representatives can communicate with the Downstream Water Users regarding the Program.

The Advisory Committee will consist of one representative from each of the following groups 1) farm and agricultural groups; 2) water user groups (surface water and groundwater groups); (3) municipalities and 4) surface water irrigation districts.

The Governance Committee Representatives will hold ~~one~~<sup>at least two</sup> meetings per year with the Advisory Committee and can hold meetings or conference calls with the Advisory Committee more frequently as needed.

Notes and e-mails of the Governance Committee will be distributed to the Advisory Committee and it is the responsibility of the Advisory Committee representatives to distribute the information to the rest of their constituency.