



March 5, 2024

Secretary Deb Haaland  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street NW  
Room 6612  
Washington, D.C. 20240

RE: Proposed Buy America General Applicability Public Interest Waiver for the Bureau of Reclamation's (BOR) Rural Water Program previously planned projects

Dear Secretary Haaland,

The North Dakota Water Users Association (NDWUA) generally supports the proposed Buy America General Applicability Public Interest Waiver for the Bureau of Reclamation's (BOR) Rural Water Program previously planned projects with some important adjustments. Granting a waiver with these adjustments will help complete necessary water projects that will benefit significant populations of North Dakotans as well as communities in other states.

The NDWUA is the diverse, state-wide membership organization of more than 300 members strong dedicated to protecting, developing, and managing North Dakota's water resources. Our members include constituents who will benefit from completion of BOR rural water projects identified in the proposed waiver. The NDWUA supports the adjustments to the waiver detailed in the comment letter submitted by the North Dakota Department of Water Resources, including ensuring the waiver process is clear and timely. The NDWUA urges the Department of the Interior to make the waiver expansive enough to cover projects that were designed prior to the Build America Buy America requirements. The term of the waiver should also be tied to the completion date of the project.

Making these adjustments to the proposed waiver will ensure a process that is fair and clear while allowing these important projects to move forward in a timely manner. Thank you for your consideration of these comments. Should you have any questions, please contact Dani Quissell, North Dakota Water Users Executive Vice President at [dquissell@ndwater.net](mailto:dquissell@ndwater.net).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Massad". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mary" and last name "Massad" clearly legible.

Mary Massad  
President

Cc: Andrea Travnicek, Ph.D., Director, ND Department of Water Resources