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South Dakota Municipal Electric Association

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NO REPLY NECESSARY 1-5-09

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B60203		

Robert Harris, Regional Manager
 Upper Great Plains Region
 Western Area Power Administration
 2900 4th Ave. North
 Billings, MT 59101-1266

INFO COPY TO:
December 29, 2008

Dear Mr. Harris:

Please consider this letter from the South Dakota Municipal Electric Association as formal comment in response to the Federal Register Notice of October 15, 2008 pertaining to the Post-2010 Resource Pool, Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program, Eastern Division.

The South Dakota Municipal Electric Association is a statewide organization of thirty-three municipal electric utilities that provide power to approximately 100,000 residents and over 9,000 commercial and industrial customers in the South Dakota portion of the Upper Great Plains Region

Under its Constitution and By-Laws, the South Dakota Municipal Electric Association represents the interests of the municipally owned electric utilities in the State of South Dakota; and furthermore, as a member of the South Dakota Municipal League, ascribes to that organization's policies that:

Supports the rights of municipalities to establish electric utility systems to provide service within their corporate limits and adjacent urban growth areas; and
Opposes any legislative and regulatory barriers to the creation of municipal electric utilities and supports the fundamental principle of public power and the right of municipalities to provide any utility service desired by their citizens.

Therefore, the South Dakota Municipal Electric Association requests that the Administrator of Western give due consideration to the application by the City of Wagner, South Dakota for an allocation of hydropower from the Post-2010 resource pool, pursuant to the authority of the Administrator in implementing the laws, policies and regulations as developed and applied under Western's Energy Planning and Management Program.

Sincerely,

Todd R. Chambers By: *Loni Butler*

Todd R. Chambers
President