

Dear Members of Western Dakota Regional Water System (WDRWS):

Thank you for your support of WDRWS! At our recent Annual Meeting I announced I would be stepping down as your Executive Director after the 2025 Legislative Session. The board of directors has a transition plan that begins with announcing the job opening to seek qualified applicants. We have attached the job announcement and provided a link on our website, as well. The deadline for applications is Friday, November 8, 2024. Applications can be sent to me at cheryl.chapman@wdrws.org, and any questions can be sent there, as well, or by calling 605-484-0334. Our goal is to select a new Executive Director by the end of the year.

Together, we have taken the news that our region will experience water shortages during drought and forged a plan to bring an alternate source of water to Western South Dakota. We have grown to 35 members, raising local funds to match our state funding, plus the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. We have reached \$12.7M of our \$13M goal for a Feasibility Study. Our congressional delegation has worked in support of gaining authorization for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to work with us in the development of the Feasibility Study. Two bills have been introduced for the authorization. Much work has been accomplished, but there is a long way to go. With your and the board of director's support, we will continue to make progress and deliver abundant, quality water to all corners of Western South Dakota.

Please share the job announcement with anyone you think might be interested in applying. We look forward to receiving qualified applicants for the full-time Executive Director position.

Truly yours, **Cheryl Chapman, PhD, PE**Executive Director