

STATE OF NEBRASKA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (“Department”), will hold a public hearing at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 23, 2024, at the Bertrand Community Building located at 405 Nelson Street, Bertrand, Nebraska 68927. The purpose of the hearing is to receive public comments concerning the pending Platte to Republican Basin High Flow Diversion Project’s Amended Application A-19594 for a surface water appropriation involving an interbasin transfer from the Platte to Republican River Basin. Per Neb. Rev. Stat. § 46-289, when evaluating such an application, the Director of Natural Resources shall consider the following seven factors:

- (1) The economic, environmental, and other benefits of the proposed interbasin transfer and use;
- (2) Any adverse impacts of the proposed interbasin transfer and use;
- (3) Any current beneficial uses being made of the unappropriated water in the basin of origin;
- (4) Any reasonably foreseeable future beneficial uses of the water in the basin of origin;
- (5) The economic, environmental, and other benefits of leaving the water in the basin of origin for current or future beneficial uses;
- (6) Alternative sources of water supply available to the applicant; and
- (7) Alternative sources of water available to the basin of origin for future beneficial uses.

All persons are invited to attend and make oral or written comments at the public hearing regarding the public interest factors listed above. The Department will receive oral comments for each of the seven factors separately. If you wish to testify on multiple factors, you must provide separate testimony for each. Individual testimony will be limited to 5 minutes for each factor. Persons may also submit written comments prior to the hearing, which will be made part of the hearing record if received by the Department on or before May 16, 2024. Written comments must identify which factors their comments pertain to in order to be accepted by the Department. Written comments should be sent to the Department of Natural Resources, 245 Fallbrook Blvd., Suite 201, Lincoln, NE 68521 or to dnr.legalfile@nebraska.gov.

Amended Application A-19594 is available at the Department office located at the preceding address and on the Department’s website at: <https://dnr.nebraska.gov/surface-water/transbasin-diversion>.

If you plan to participate in the public hearing and need auxiliary aids or reasonable accommodations, please contact BJ Green at (402) 471-2363 by May 16, 2024.