

STATE OF NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF WATER, ENERGY, AND ENVIRONMENT

APPROVAL OF APPLICATION A-20113

WATER DIVISION 2-A

BACKGROUND

1. On January 16, 2026, Amos Lange, General Manager, North Loup River Public Power and Irrigation District, filed in the Department of Water, Energy, and Environment (Department) application A-20113 for a temporary permit to appropriate water for the purpose of groundwater recharge through the Ord-North Loup Canal.
2. Temporary permits may not be granted for a term of more than one year.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that application A-20113 is APPROVED subject to the following conditions:

1. The source of water is the North Loup River.
2. The priority date is January 16, 2026.
3. Water shall not be diverted under appropriation A-20113 before February 28, 2026, coincident with the expiration of temporary recharge appropriation A-20055.
4. For the purpose of this Order the following locations will be considered the Project Facility(s): the Ord-North Loup Canal, including its laterals.
5. The water diverted under this temporary permit shall only be used for groundwater aquifer recharge (recharge) in support of the Basinwide Plans and Integrated Management Plans at the existing Project Facility(s).
6. When the specified **limitations, conditions and administration** as shown in **Attachment A**, which is made a part of this Order, are met, water may be diverted at a maximum rate of 100 cubic feet per second, at the headgate of the Ord-North Loup Canal located in Section 22, Township 19 North, Range 14 West of the 6<sup>th</sup> P.M. in Valley County, and the same water, less transit losses, allowed to flow into the Project Facility(s).
7. The water diverted under this appropriation **may not be used for direct irrigation**. The water diverted under this temporary permit may flow only through the Project Facility(s) as shown above. Any water diverted for the purpose authorized under this permit that does not seep into the groundwater aquifer under the specified limitations and conditions shall be returned to the North Loup River system at established spills and drains.
8. The Appropriator must comply with all relevant statutes.

9. If a relinquishment is not submitted first, then A-20113 will EXPIRE on February 28, 2027, and will be CANCELLED without further action by the Department as of that date.
10. By September 1, 2027, the Appropriator shall submit a report, either via the Department's web-based Decision Support System (DSS) in excel and/or shapefile formats or hardcopy form containing the following elements:
  - 1) Table of water deliveries to the Project Facility.
  - 2) An evaluation of the evaporative loss.
  - 3) Maps or plans which include a detailed depiction of the areas used to recharge the groundwater aquifer and the infrastructure used to deliver the water.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Failure to comply with all laws and regulations pertaining to surface water appropriations, any orders issued by the Department, or the provisions of this Approval may result in the cancellation of the appropriation, temporary closing of the appropriation, administrative penalty, criminal prosecution, or any combination thereof. This appropriation is not a guarantee that water will be available.

This appropriation is not a guarantee that water will be available. Nebraska law gives priority to senior appropriations. This appropriation may be closed if there is insufficient water to satisfy senior appropriations.

DEPARTMENT OF WATER, ENERGY, AND ENVIRONMENT



February 19, 2026

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Matthew T. Manning, PE, JD  
Chief Water Officer

A copy of this approval was posted on the Department's website and provided to the Department's field offices in Ord, Nebraska. A copy of this approval was mailed to the following:

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