NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING RELATING TO THE LOWER REPUBLICAN NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT AND THE NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES PROPOSED INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT PLAN

Pursuant to *Neb. Rev. Stat.* § 46-718, the Lower Republican Natural Resources District (LRNRD) and the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NeDNR) hereby provide notice that the LRNRD and the NeDNR shall hold a public hearing on July 8, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. Central Time at the LRNRD office, located at 30 North John Street in Alma, Nebraska. As required by *Neb. Rev. Stat.* § 46-718(1), the purpose of the hearing is to take testimony on the proposed fifth generation Integrated Management Plan (IMP) jointly developed by NeDNR and LRNRD and the proposed controls.

The geographic area for the proposed IMP, including for the proposed groundwater and surface water controls, encompasses the entire land area within the LRNRD boundary. A general description of the proposed IMP includes the following: I. Authority, II. Background, III. Abbreviations, IV. Definitions, V. Goals and Objectives, VI. Plan Areas, VII. Controls, VIII. Augmentation and Incentive Programs, IX. Monitoring and Studies, X. Modifications to the Integrated Management Plan, and XI. Information Considered.

Section VII. of the IMP outlines the controls for groundwater and surface water management that are consistent with meeting the goals and objectives of the IMP. The groundwater controls are separated into Compliance Standards and other controls. The controls found in the existing IMP (available at https://dnr.nebraska.gov) will continue to be used in the proposed IMP. The proposed substantive changes to the controls include rewording the two Compliance Standards to clarify them and adding information about how the Republican River Basin-Wide Plan relates to them.

Any interested person may appear at the hearing and present written or oral testimony concerning the proposed IMP and proposed controls. Individuals with disabilities may request auxiliary aids and service necessary for participation by contacting the LRNRD or the NeDNR by June 30, 2021. Testimony or other evidence relevant to the purposes of the hearing may also be submitted in writing to Lower Republican NRD, 30 North John Street, Alma, Nebraska, 68920, or the Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 64676, Lincoln NE 68509-4676, or by electronic mail at <u>dnr.legalfile@nebraska.gov</u> by 5:00pm, June 30, 2021.

The full text of the proposed IMP and proposed controls may be obtained via the LRNRD's website at https://www.lrnrd.org or telephone (308) 928-2182 or the NeDNR's website at: https://dnr.nebraska.gov or telephone (402) 471-2363. Following the public hearing the LRNRD and the NeDNR will make a joint decision within 60 days of whether to implement the proposed IMP with or without modifications and whether to adopt and implement the controls as proposed in the IMP.