EXHIBIT 2
DATE Jan. 17, 2013
HB 6

MONTANA JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
ON LONG RANGE PLANNING

JANUARY 11, 2013

TO: Honorable Rob Cook, Chairman and Committee Members

FROM: Pat Byrne, Clinton Irrigation District

SUBJECT: Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program,
Clark Fork Diversion Rehabilitation Project

My name is Pat Byrne and I am the current President of the Clinton Irrigation District, (CID). Our District is located approximately 20 miles East of Missoula and serves the agricultural area around the community of Clinton, Montana.

Our District has submitted an application for a DNRC Renewable Resource Grant and are currently ranked # 5 in the planning schedule by those involved in the rating process. I had every intention of attending your hearings during the week of the 14th but unfortunately other business commitments will not allow. In my absence, I have asked our Engineering Firm, WWC Engineering to attend and answer any questions you may have concerning this project. I do however want to thank you for this opportunity and for your consideration of our application.

To briefly review, our District is quite small serving some 820 acres. We were created in 1919, by the District Court and currently provide irrigation water to approximately 130 separate properties in the District. Over the years, several larger acreages have been subdivided which accounts for the large numbers of users.

The CID is divided into three divisions serviced by a series of canals and ditch laterals that are fed by a single point of diversion from the Clark Fork River near the confluence of Rock Creek and the Clark Fork River.

In 1982, due to a large ice-jam in the river and the destruction of our diversion structure, we relocated upstream from the original site. The upstream diversion was located on an outside curve of the river allowing the canal to be filled without the use of wing walls. This structure consisted of two 36" X 33 foot long CMP culverts and two 36- inch handwheel operated steel headgates. Over the last 30 years, these headgates have been bent, broken, and repaired repeatedly. Currently, the gates are stuck in a partially open position preventing proper control of water entering the Main Canal.

The main objective of our Diversion Rehabilitation Project is to replace the headgates on the diversion structure, replace the culverts, rehabilitate the operating platform and engineer the side slopes of the intake pond. This will increase the efficiency and agricultural production of the CID and promote the conservation of waters within the Clark Fork River.

Without the assistance of the RRGL Program the Clinton Irrigation District would not be able to undertake this major and badly needed project. Because of our proximity to Missoula, issues of subdivisions, relocation of culverts and lateral ditched due to expansion of highways and roads etc. have placed additional burdens and constraints on our finances and operations.

To conclude, we are very grateful to the State of Montana, the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, and the Long Range Planning Subcommittee for your cooperation and consideration of this project.

Respectfully Yours,

Pat Byrne, President
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