



**DEPARTMENT of ENVIRONMENT
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**Gov. Daugaard Announces \$7.7 Million Loan
for Lewis & Clark Regional Water System**

PIERRE, S.D. – Gov. Dennis Daugaard announced today that the state Board of Water and Natural Resources has approved a \$7.7 million State Water Resources Management System loan to the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System for a regional water system expansion project.

The loan will be administered through the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

“I am pleased to announce that the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System will receive this assistance,” said Gov. Daugaard. “This innovative plan is a win-win. Not only does it get the city of Madison the 1 million gallons of water per day it needs by late 2016, it saves \$17 million in additional state funds to build the balance of the Lewis & Clark line to Madison.”

The project involves constructing two five-mile segments of pipeline as part of an effort to “wheel” up to one million gallons of water per day through two community water systems to Madison. Lewis & Clark will deliver additional water to the Minnehaha Community Water Corporation using the southern pipeline segment, Minnehaha will sell water to the Big Sioux Community Water System and Big Sioux will sell water to Madison using the northern pipeline segment.

“A great deal of cooperation and creativity went into developing this wheeling plan,” said Lewis & Clark Executive Director Troy Larson.

Gov. Daugaard recommended the funding to the 2015 Legislature. Lawmakers approved it by appropriating funds from the state Water and Environment Fund to the State Water Resources Management System through the Governor’s 2015 Omnibus Water Funding Bill.

The board met Thursday in Pierre.