

## Manager's Message

### Red Trail Energy LLC to utilize pipeline water

By: Ray Christensen, SWA Manager/CEO

When Red Trail Energy LLC (RTE) of Richardton, ND, processes its first bushel of corn into ethanol, they'll be using water from the Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP). RTE has signed a contract for "raw" or untreated water with Southwest Water Authority (SWA) and the ND State Water Commission (SWC).

RTE originally looked at drilling wells for the 50 million gallon per year ethanol plant, but found local water to be poor quality, according to RTE General Manager, Mick Miller. "SWPP water is a great fit for us," said Miller. "It offers a continuous allocation and the possibility for future expansion."

The raw pipeline water will mainly be utilized in RTE's cooling tower and boiler. A portion of the water is recycled and used again.

Using up to a maximum of 600 gallons per minute, when RTE is fully operational, it will be the second largest SWPP customer, second to Dickinson. "Approximately 4.5 gallons of water is used to produce one gallon of ethanol," said Miller. "RTE will use approximately 225 million gallons of raw water annually." RTE will utilize potable or "treated" SWPP water in the general office building.



Ray Christensen,  
SWA Manager/CEO

Before entering into the agreement with RTE, we carefully considered current and future construction plans, as well as system capacity. During the course of our analysis we determined that service to RTE would not impact other customers.

The contract with RTE further advances the SWA vision: ***people and business succeeding with quality water.***

RTE is set to begin taking raw water this fall and anticipates being fully operational by November, 2006.



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Construction is in full swing for Red Trail Energy LLC.

The Richardton-based ethanol plant will use raw and treated water from the Southwest Pipeline Project.

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# Water Works



## *Vickie's Water Notes*

### **Accurate meter readings mean accurate billing**

Accurately reading and reporting your meter reading each month will help avoid surprises on your water bill. Two different meter styles are used throughout the Southwest Pipeline Project. Both require you to report seven digits.

**Inside meters:** If you are reading an inside meter the four digits beginning on the left-hand side have a white background. Report all seven digits exactly as the meter displays them, even if they are zeros.

**Outside meters:** If you are reading an outside remote meter beginning from the left, record all seven digits exactly as they appear on the remote meter. You do not need to round up or down to the nearest thousand.

Meters, both inside and outside styles, are randomly checked by our operators. If we find more than a 10 percent difference in actual versus reported usage, a penalty may be assessed.

Report a meter reading by including the information on the remittance portion of your monthly bill, e-mailing [swa@swwater.com](mailto:swa@swwater.com) or calling our office at 225-0241 or toll-free 1-888-425-0241.

***Effective June 1, 2006, if we are required to read your meter, you will be assessed a \$10.00 fee; if we are required to read your meter a second time, \$20.00 and a third or more times, \$25.00.***



*Vickie Franchuk,  
SWA Customer Service  
Representative*

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***Vision Statement:***  
**People and business  
succeeding with quality water.**

***Mission Statement:***  
**Providing quality water for  
southwest North Dakota.**

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## **The wonder of water. . .**

### **SWA celebrates Drinking Water Week**

Although we each use approximately 100 gallons of water per day, we sometimes overlook the overall way water impacts our lives.

It takes a great effort each day for the Southwest Water Authority staff to provide clean, safe and plentiful water to its customers.

That is why National Drinking Water Week was established...to increase awareness of the importance of our most precious natural resource. Everyone who uses water has a partial responsibility to respect this great natural commodity and use it wisely. We urge you to consider the value of quality water during National Drinking Water Week, May 7-13, 2006.



## Freije named project manager

Southwest Pipeline Project (SWPP) has a new leader – Tim Freije assumed the position of SWPP Project Manager with the ND State Water Commission (SWC) in December, 2005.

For the past five years, Freije worked in the investigations section of the SWC. "This was great experience, as [investigations] basically covers all aspects of engineering in the water development division," he said. Most recently, he was Devils Lake Basin Engineer and the SWC representative to the Missouri River Joint Board and the Red River Valley Water Supply Technical Team.

"One of the reasons I pursued this position was to further develop myself as an engineer by having the opportunity to work with municipal and rural water systems. It represented an interesting new challenge professionally and intellectually. Technical work like engineering is far more fulfilling, if you have a chance to expand into other areas and cultivate a more diverse breadth of knowledge," he said.

He is happy to be working on the SWPP. "My goals for the SWPP are completion of the project and maintaining a beneficial working relationship with the people that have made this project a reality. The same aggressive, organized effort that went into building the project will be required to bring water to those who have been waiting fifteen years."

Prior to his employment with SWC, Freije worked as a Graduate Research



*Tim Freije, SWPP  
Project Manager*

Assistant at the Rock Mechanics Institute at the University of Oklahoma and as a visiting student at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization, Petroleum Division in Melbourne, Australia.

Freije has bachelor of science degrees in both engineering and geology from the University of North Dakota. He attended graduate school in Oklahoma.

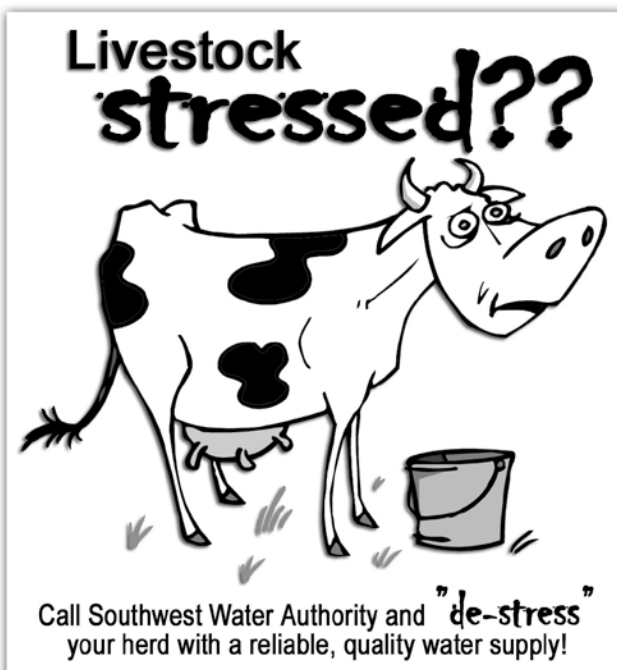
## Continuing education critical for SWA

Southwest Water Authority takes pride in delivering an adequate supply of quality water. We encourage all staff members to participate in continuing education seminars and training. The following individuals participated in educational seminars and training this past quarter:

- **Arc View GIS Training:** Dan Roller and Dale Binstock
- **Electrical Continuing Education Classes:** Lee Messer and Todd Gordon
- **EPA Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule and the Stage 2 Disinfections/Disinfectant by Product Rule Web Casts:** Lee Messer, Dan Roller, Steve Ries, Roger Dick and Jim Dworshak
- **ND Rural Water Expo:** Todd Gordon, Allen Hecker, Dale Binstock, Ray Christensen and Mary Massad
- **North Dakota Rural Water Association Pre-Certification Training Seminar:** Clint Scott and Andy Erickson, Jr.
- **ND State Health Department Distribution Operator Training:** Justin Kohanes
- **Grade 2 Water Distribution Operator Certification Examination:** Clint Scott
- **Customer Service Training:** Mary Massad, Sandy Burwick, Carol Schmaltz, Vickie Franchuk and Kim Turner

***Meter reading charges  
change June 1, 2006.***

*See page 2 for details.*



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### Lake Sakakawea - Elevation Gauge

