

State of South Dakota

EIGHTY-SECOND SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2007

480N0762

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1004

Introduced by: Representatives Dykstra, Boomgarden, Brunner, Burg, Carson, Cutler, Davis, Deadrick, Dennert, Dreyer, Elliott, Faehn, Gassman, Gillespie, Gilson, Glenski, Hackl, Halverson, Hanks, Hargens, Haverly, Heineman, Hills, Hunt, Jerke, Juhnke, Kirkeby, Koistinen, Krebs, Lust, McLaughlin, Miles, Moore, Nelson, Noem, Novstrup (David), Nygaard, Olson (Russell), Olson (Ryan), Pederson (Gordon), Peters, Putnam, Rausch, Rave, Rounds, Sigdestad, Steele, Street, Thompson, Tidemann, Turbiville, Van Etten, Van Norman, Vanneman, Vehle, Weems, and Willadsen and Senators Albers, Apa, Bartling, Dempster, Duenwald, Gant, Garnos, Greenfield, Hansen (Tom), Hauge, Hunhoff, Maher, McCracken, McNenny, Napoli, Olson (Ed), Peterson (Jim), Schmidt (Dennis), and Smidt (Orville)

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Requesting the Congress of the United States to direct the
2 Corps of Engineers to address and rectify problems caused by the accumulation of sediment
3 in the Missouri River main stem reservoirs.

4 WHEREAS, the Fort Peck Dam, Garrison Dam, Oahe Dam, Big Bend Dam, Fort Randall
5 Dam, and Gavins Point Dam and their associated reservoirs were improved or constructed under
6 the Flood Control Act of 1944; and

7 WHEREAS, the Missouri River dams were constructed to provide numerous benefits,
8 including flood control, hydro power generation, irrigation and domestic water supply,
9 recreation, and fish and wildlife, with those benefits averaging over one billion dollars per year;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, the Corps of Engineers 2007 Annual Operating Plan Summary of Engineering



1 Data shows a total annual sediment inflow into the reservoirs of 92,500 acre feet per year; and

2 WHEREAS, the accumulation of sediment in the reservoirs since they began operation has
3 resulted in the loss of over four million five hundred thousand acre feet of storage, which is the
4 equivalent of one thousand square miles of storage seven and one-half feet deep; and

5 WHEREAS, the benefits created by the Missouri River dams accrue to all of the United
6 States of America; and

7 WHEREAS, the Missouri River and its dams are a national resource; and

8 WHEREAS, the Corps of Engineers, the federal agency assigned the task of operating and
9 maintaining the dams, does not specifically address sediment management in its Annual
10 Operation and Maintenance Plan; and

11 WHEREAS, the ability of these dams to accumulate and store water for release during times
12 of drought is essential to preservation of water-based benefits over the entire system, from the
13 Fort Peck Dam to the mouth of the Missouri River near St. Louis, Missouri; and

14 WHEREAS, the extension of the life of and benefits provided by the Missouri River dams
15 and reservoirs is of major importance to the United States:

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Eighty-
17 second Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the
18 Legislature of the State of South Dakota hereby requests the Congress of the United States of
19 America to direct the Corps of Engineers to immediately begin work to extend the life of the
20 reservoirs into perpetuity through addressing the rectifying of the sediment problem, adopting
21 a life cycle financial analysis, and altering or eliminating the requirement of benefit/cost ratio
22 analysis.