

DATE: March 31, 2025
TO: Senate Environment, Climate and Legacy Committee
FROM: Kerry Netzke, Executive Director
RE: Appropriation and Local Match History to Area II Minnesota River Basin
Senate File 946 / House File 939

Prior to my testimony on April 1, 2025, I would like to provide background information regarding State appropriations to Area II Minnesota River Basin Projects (Area II).

Formed in 1978 by statute, Area II is a 9-county joint powers organization in southwestern Minnesota for the purpose of floodwater retention and retardation. The organization received \$250,000 per year from the State of Minnesota until the mid-1980's when a 25% reduction occurred due to economic conditions. The reduced level of \$189,000 was maintained until 2002, and since then, the appropriation has varied ever since. As the table below illustrates, the dedication of the member counties has not waived by providing more than the required 25% match to the State funds.

Fiscal Year	State (General) Funds	Local Match Funds	Additional Local Funds
2025	\$190,000.00	\$92,000.00	\$0.00
2024	\$190,000.00	\$92,000.00	\$3,324.03
2023	\$140,000.00	\$92,000.00	\$6,884.00
2022	\$140,000.00	\$92,000.00	\$55,000.00
2021	\$140,000.00	\$87,000.00	\$9,621.00
2020	\$140,000.00	\$87,000.00	\$17,305.05
2019	\$140,000.00	\$87,000.00	\$73,094.43
2018	\$140,000.00	\$87,000.00	\$168,999.73
2017	\$140,000.00	\$87,000.00	\$119,533.39
2016	\$140,000.00	\$87,000.00	\$219,240.13
2015	\$140,000.00	\$87,000.00	\$21,670.46
2014	\$120,000.00	\$87,000.00	\$70,602.17
2013	\$120,000.00	\$87,000.00	\$95,080.16
2012	\$120,000.00	\$85,157.00	\$108,830.79
2011	\$120,000.00	\$85,157.00	\$39,956.96
2010	\$130,000.00	\$85,157.00	\$208,985.87
2009	\$140,000.00	\$85,157.00	\$48,380.40
2008	\$140,000.00	\$83,487.00	\$135,831.84
2007	\$105,000.00	\$83,487.00	\$64,064.54
2006	\$105,000.00	\$81,850.00	\$41,352.42
2005	\$105,000.00	\$81,850.00	\$20,069.85
2004	\$105,000.00	\$81,850.00	\$23,086.69
2003	\$140,000.00	\$81,850.00	\$11,466.54
TOTALS	\$3,090,000.00	\$1,986,002.00	\$1,562,380.45
		\$3,548,382.45	

*Required 3:1 Match to \$3,090,000 is \$1,030,000; actual match provided is **\$3,548,382.45**.*

I look forward to speaking with the committee to elaborate on why continued funding of Area II is crucial to maintain the momentum for creating water storage in Minnesota.