

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Notice to Water Users
(Pursuant to Section 85-2-307, MCA)

The following application has been submitted to appropriate water in the State of Montana.

THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION PROPOSES TO GRANT AN APPLICATION FOR BENEFICIAL WATER USE PERMIT. DESCRIBED BELOW ARE THE PERTINENT FACTS WHICH SUMMARIZE THE APPLICATION. THE DRAFT PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION (PD) DOCUMENTING THE FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ANY CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO THE WATER RIGHT ARE AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT <https://dnrc.mt.gov/Water-Resources/Water-Rights/application-status-environmental-assessments/>.

PUBLIC COMMENT DEADLINE: OCTOBER 31, 2026. PUBLIC COMMENTS MUST BE FILED ON A PUBLIC COMMENT FORM, FORM 654, AND MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE STATED DEADLINE. THE FORM IS AVAILABLE ON THE DEPARTMENT’S WEBSITE OR CAN BE OBTAINED FROM ANY WATER RESOURCES REGIONAL OFFICE. MAIL PAPER COPIES OF THE COMPLETED FORM TO: DNRC WATER RIGHTS BUREAU, PO BOX 201601, HELENA, MT 59620-1601. SUBMIT ELECTRONIC COPIES OF THE COMPLETED FORM TO: DNRCWATERRIGHTSCOMMENTOBJECTION@MT.GOV. PER 85-2-307(5)(C), MCA, IF NO PUBLIC COMMENTS ARE RECEIVED, THE DRAFT PD WILL BE ADOPTED AS FINAL AND THERE WILL BE NO OPPORTUNITY TO OBJECT TO THIS APPLICATION.

DIRECT ANY QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO THE APPLICATION, OR REQUESTS TO OBTAIN THE DRAFT PD OR PUBLIC COMMENT FORM TO THE WATER RESOURCES OFFICE AT 613 NE MAIN, SUITE E, LEWISTOWN, MT 59457-2020, PHONE: 406-538-7459.

IF ISSUED, THE RIGHT WILL BE SUBJECT TO PRIOR EXISTING WATER RIGHTS.

Application Number:	41Q 30170946						
Owners:	NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION D/B/A NORTHWESTERN ENERGY 208 N MONTANA SUITE 200 HELENA, MT 59601-3837						
Priority Date:	JUNE 5, 2026 at 08:00 A.M.						
Purpose (Use):	POWER GENERATION, NONCONSUMPTIVE THIS RIGHT IS FOR DIRECT DIVERSION THRU THE POWER PLANT. (NO STORAGE)						
Maximum Flow Rate:	1,602.00 CFS						
Maximum Volume:	1,005,684.00 AC-FT						
Source Name:	MISSOURI RIVER						
Source Type:	SURFACE WATER						
Point of Diversion and Means of Diversion:							
<u>ID</u>	<u>Govt Lot</u>	<u>Qtr</u>	<u>Sec</u>	<u>Twp</u>	<u>Rge</u>	<u>County</u>	
1			SWNWNW	5	20N	4E	CASCADE
Period of Diversion:	JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31						
Diversion Means:	DAM						
2			NWSWNW	5	20N	4E	CASCADE
Period of Diversion:	JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31						
Diversion Means:	DAM						
3			SENE	6	20N	4E	CASCADE
Period of Diversion:	JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31						
Diversion Means:	DAM						
4			NESE	6	20N	4E	CASCADE
Period of Diversion:	JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31						
Diversion Means:	DAM						
	THE FOUR PODS, TOGETHER, FULLY DESCRIBE BLACK EAGLE DAM						
Purpose (Use):	POWER GENERATION, NONCONSUMPTIVE						
Volume:	1,005,684.00 AC-FT						
Period of Use:	JANUARY 1 to DECEMBER 31						
Place of Use:							
<u>ID</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Govt Lot</u>	<u>Qtr</u>	<u>Sec</u>	<u>Twp</u>	<u>Rge</u>	<u>County</u>
1		4	NWNW	5	20N	4E	CASCADE

Remarks:

ASSOCIATED RIGHT

THE RIGHTS FOLLOWING THIS REMARK ARE ASSOCIATED AS THEY SHARE THE SAME POINTS OF DIVERSION AND MEANS OF CONVEYANCE. THE MAXIMUM FLOW RATE THAT MAY BE DIVERTED AMONGST THE SIX WATER RIGHTS CANNOT EXCEED 6,642.00 CFS.
41Q 30170946 41Q 94354-00 41Q 94355-00 41Q 94356-00 41Q 94357-00 41Q 94359-00

PUBLISHED IN: CASCADE COURIER ON OCTOBER 1, 2026.