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March 26, 2024

Nebraska Department of Natural Resources 301 Centennial Mall South

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Lincoln, NE 68509

Re: DRAFT WSF 2024 Annual Report #10041

Dear Mr.

This letter outlines the annual progress report for the Water Sustainability Fund (WSF) Grant #10041, titled Upper Niobrara White Groundwater Model Update (Model Update). The Model Update is on track with progress on the tasks and modeling. The primary tasks that are currently in progress are listed below:

- 1. Conversion of the Modeling to Modflow 6 In Progress
- 2. Update the Land Use Datasets to Current In Progress
- 3. Evaluation and Update of the Ground Water Model In Progress
- 4. Aguifer Property Evaluation In Progress
- 5. GW Model Recalibration, "Checklist Effort," and Model File Testing In Progress

The work is being completed within the project's timeline and we anticipate the entire project will be completed by the end of June 2026.

The total project budget is \$275,000, with WFS contributing \$82,500, the Upper Niobrara White Natural Resources District contributing \$55,000, and the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources contributing \$137,500. To date, the project has spent \$41,666.65.

For additional questions about the project, please contact the project's coordinator, Thad Kuntz, P.G., from Adaptive Resources, Inc., at thad@ari-water.com or 308-633-2890.

Sincerely,

Patrick O'Brien General Manager