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March 12, 2018

To All H & I Grain Bond Proceeds Claimants:

RE: GW17-002 - In the Matter of the Grain Buyer Bond of H & I Grain of Hetland, Inc.

You are receiving this letter because you filed a claim in relation to the H & I Grain bond. Enclosed with this letter are a spreadsheet detailing the options that have been presented to the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission, a memorandum in support of PUC staff recommendations for disbursement of the bond proceeds, an affidavit, and a reply form.

At the top of the spreadsheet is a table showing the bond amount and an estimate of the accrued interest. On the left side of the page is a table with the names of all who have filed a claim form and the amount of the claim initially filed by each claimant. The next table (Option 1) is staff's findings prior to further review beyond examining the received claim documents. The next table (Option 2) is staff's findings after investigation of claims made by some claimants that had not entered into VCS contracts and/or did not have an opportunity to review the contracts for accuracy. The next table (Option 3) reflects acceptance of statements of those who dispute staff's original findings. The final table (Option 4) includes all VCS contracts that were drafted after late December 2016.

Staff recommends Option 2 as explained in the memorandum. If you disagree with staff's recommendations and would like to be heard on this matter, return the enclosed reply form by March 26, 2018, by emailing it to <a href="PUC@state.sd.us">PUC@state.sd.us</a>, or by mailing it to the commission's address above. Because this is an open docket, information and comments received are posted in the docket. You can access the docket at <a href="www.puc.sd.gov">www.puc.sd.gov</a> by clicking on Commission Actions, Commission Dockets, Grain Warehouse Dockets, 2017 Grain Warehouse Dockets, and GW17-002.

We plan to place this docket on the commission's agenda at the regular commission meeting in Pierre on April 3, 2018. At that time, staff will ask the commission how it wishes to proceed. A link to the agenda for the April 3 meeting will be posted on the PUC website as soon as it is available.

Sincerely,

Jim Mehlhaff

Director, Grain Warehouse Division

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