

**EXCERPT FROM: HEARING BEFORE A SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
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22

If we get some information at the end of this year, that is magnificent. But we are all waiting for September or December 2010 also to have a preferred alternative.

Senator DORGAN. I am going to ask Mayor Voxland if he wishes to respond. But Colonel Christensen, would you just tell us when you did the cost-benefit ratios a few moments ago, was that for a 100-year flood or a 500-year flood or some other flood? Tell us what it was you were measuring.

Colonel CHRISTENSEN. I would have to go for a lifeline on that, sir, just to make sure that I am correct, 100 year plus 4 feet.

Senator DORGAN. Pardon me?

Colonel CHRISTENSEN. A 100-year flood plus 4 feet.

Senator DORGAN. Thank you.

Mayor Voxland.

Mr. VOXLAND. I look back to what the world was like in our area on March 15, and had you asked that question then, I would have kind of smiled and chuckled because there was a casual discussion of different things amongst the group. Starting with the meeting that you convened in Washington, DC, the city of Moorhead, Fargo, Cass and Clay County have had one joint meeting since then. We have another one that they are working on scheduling for June right now.

My belief is the best way that we are going to get good cooperation is by having us get together and, first of all, get to know each other, get to know the first names of everybody that is around the table, get to know a little bit about them, and honestly talk about the problems and how we can solve them.

I think that has been happening. It has been happening—as I look in front of me, it is happening at the national level. I know it is happening at the State level. It is happening at the local level.

I think we are going to be a long way toward a final, cohesive answer by the end of this year. We might not have everything done, but we will be a long way. And by the time the Corps project comes out, I think we will be in good sync with it. I am very confident. You can't be Mayor and be pessimistic.

Senator DORGAN. Well, Mayor Voxland, I am encouraged by that answer certainly and by the answer of the mayor of Fargo.

Again, I will send a series of questions to the entire panel for a written response to be included in the record.

Senator Conrad.

Senator CONRAD. Thanks again, Mr. Chairman. And I didn't have a chance to thank specifically my colleague Senator Klobuchar for being here and for her leadership. She has just been terrific to work with on these issues. One thing about Senator Klobuchar, she does her homework. And so, it has been great to have her as a partner in this effort.

And Congressman Peterson, I will tell you, you could not have a better partner in a fight than Collin Peterson. And I know because we just went through the Farm bill together, and we were great allies in that fight and will be allies in this effort as well.

The Mayor, Mayor Walaker mentioned the evacuation meeting that we had. It really was, I thought, was going to be a meeting about resources but turned out to be, in part, about the evacuation. I just want to say, as we went through that meeting, I thought you,