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Middle Republican Natural Resources District

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For Immediate Release

Middle Republican NRD Reopens Bids For Acres Retirement Program

Curtis, NE – The District Board voted to reopen bids for the Acreage Retirement Program (ARP) that began last fall. Landowners are invited to submit bids to the District for the purchase of their “right” to irrigate certified acres. Operators will be asked to provide the district with a bid that reflects the cost per acre to permanently retire their acres. Eligible landowners include those with certified ground water irrigated acres. CRP and CREP Acres are not eligible or acres irrigated by surface water. Application must be made on forms provided by the district. Guidelines and forms are available on the District website and will be included in the Water Use Reports mailing this month.

As a long term means of reducing overall water use District wide, the Board approved an Acreage Retirement Program at the October Regular meeting where landowners could sell their certified acres to the District via a bid system. The program yielded six applications with this first go around. The Board voted to reject all six bids. Four of the bids did not fall into the guidelines and two of the bids were high. The Board expressed interest in continuing with the program and reopening the bid process with an April 1st deadline.

Landowners with groundwater irrigated land that are interested in downsizing their operation or are considering going to dry land farming may be interested in this program.

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For more information:

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