



DENR
SOUTH DAKOTA

**DEPARTMENT of ENVIRONMENT
and NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**DENR RECOGNIZES PERKINS COUNTY RURAL WATER FOR DRINKING WATER
COMPLIANCE**

PIERRE - The South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) announced today that the Perkins County Rural Water public water system and the system's operation specialists have been awarded a Secretary's Award for Drinking Water Excellence.

"The coronavirus has brought us many challenges this year including uncertainty about the health of our families and communities. Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of South Dakota's public water supply systems, one resource we do not need to worry about is safe drinking water. DENR is excited to award the Perkins County Rural Water with the Secretary's Award for Drinking Water Excellence for its efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic and for delivering safe drinking water to their customers for 14 consecutive years," said DENR Secretary Hunter Roberts. "Year after year the Perkins County Rural Water system operation specialists have worked tirelessly to provide safe drinking water to its customers, and this year is no exception."

The system's operations specialists are Eric Newman and Shiloh Baysinger.

To qualify for the Secretary's Award for Drinking Water Excellence, public water systems and their system operations specialists had to meet all of the compliance monitoring and reporting requirements, drinking water standards, and certification requirements for ten consecutive years or more.