

STATE OF COLORADO

Colorado Water Conservation Board Department of Natural Resources

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TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor

FROM: Greg Johnson
Intrastate Water Management & Development

Harris D. Sherman
DNR Executive Director

DATE: September 11, 2009

Jennifer L. Gimbel
CWCB Director

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item 9, September 15-16, 2009 Board Meeting**
Water Supply Reserve Account Project Change –
Demonstration of Membrane Zero Liquid Discharge Process for Drinking Water
Systems

Dan McAuliffe
CWCB Deputy Director

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends granting the requested change of Water Supply Reserve Account contracting entity for the project titled: Demonstration of Membrane Zero Liquid Discharge Process for Drinking Water Systems.

Background

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) received approval for a combined WSRA grant from the Statewide Account and multiple basin accounts totaling \$800,000 at the September 2008 CWCB Board Meeting. The grant included: \$700,000 from the Statewide Account, \$50,000 from the Metro Basin Account, \$25,000 from the Arkansas Basin Account, and \$25,000 from the South Platte Basin Account. The project involves local pilot tests of zero liquid discharge (ZLD) treatment technology to examine technical and financial uncertainties which currently hinder its implementation. ZLD is a sustainable disposal option that represents a long-term solution to concentrate disposal for utilities that need membrane treatment to produce safe drinking water.

Though the CDPHE was the original applicant, the application specified that the contracting entity and project management would be provided by the non-profit American Water Works Association Research Foundation (AwwaRF) in addition to \$100,000 of matching funds. Due to AwwaRF's funding problems, they are no longer able to participate in the project or provide matching funds. In its place the CDPHE has secured an identical commitment of participation and matching funds from the WaterReuse Foundation (WaterReuse). WaterReuse is an educational, nonprofit public benefit corporation (501(c)(3)) that conducts applied research on behalf of the water and wastewater community for the purpose of advancing the science of water reuse, recycling, reclamation, and desalination. The CDPHE requests CWCB approval of changing the project's contracting entity from AwwaRF to WaterReuse with an extension of funding availability through June 2011. All other aspects of the project remain the same.