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MEMORANDUM

CWS File #09-420

To: Kevin Reidy, CWCB
From: Kim Frick
cc: Don Van Wormer, City of Monte Vista City Manager
Date: July 15, 2010
Subject: 50% Progress Report for City of Monte Vista Water Conservation Plan

Clear Water Solutions is working with the City of Monte Vista to complete a Water Conservation Plan in accordance with State regulations following the Guidance Document produced by the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB). The Guidance Document outlines nine steps in the water conservation planning process. To date, the City has completed Steps 1-5.

Monte Vista delivered 814 ac-ft of water in 2009 to a population of approximately 4,300 residents. The City's potable water supply comes from five wells completed in the Rio Grande confined aquifer. Water use in this aquifer requires augmentation, therefore the City is very interested in keeping its water use low. The City is in the process of acquiring other water rights in the area to provide augmentation for its wells. Water from the wells is pumped directly into the distribution pipelines that serve the residents.

The City does not have many water conservation measures or programs in place and is anxiously looking forward to doing so. The existing programs and measures include:

- Water conservation ordinances.
- Installation of meters for almost 100% of the residential water use.
- A drought plan that went into effect after 2002.
- Updated billing software that allows numerous query functions into customer categories.

The City has a drought response plan in place which outlines the various criteria considered when determining the extent of water conservation measures. The plan defines the severity of drought and the City's responses.

During discussions with City staff regarding their water conservation goals, they expressed their desire to develop regulations for new construction to embrace water saving principles. They also have an interest in increasing efficiencies of irrigation systems within the City's park system and other commercial and residential systems. Leak detection and meter replacement programs are also high priorities for the City.

Older sections of Monte Vista are in need of updated low flow water fixtures. The City would like to update their website to include water conservation education materials. We also discussed the possibilities of Xeriscaping some areas within the City for education purposes and maybe having someone local from the Colorado State University Extension agency teach some Xeriscape classes.