## 50 YEARS OF GOLDEN BENEFITS



SIGNING OF THE FRYINGPAN-ARKANSAS PROJECT ACT

December 7, 2012

Colorado Water Conservation Board Attn: Mr. Ben Wade 1313 Sherman St. Room 721 Denver CO, 80203

Re: Water Efficiency Grant to Conduct System Wide Audits for a Regional Conservation Plan

PO# OE PDA 1200000011 75% Progress Report

Dear Mr. Wade,

The Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District (the District) has been progressing with the implementation of the various tasks identified in the Water Efficiency Grant approved by the Colorado Water Conservation Board in July 2011, as per the above referenced purchase order number. This progress report summarizes the activities that have been completed, obstacles that have been encountered during project implementation, and those activities that will be conducted to complete the project. We will also discuss expected changes to the schedule and budget associated with completing the project.

## **Work Completed**

The District has completed the project as designed. As you may recall, the project was designed to collect data related to water loss management and infrastructure from the 38 project participants associated with the Arkansas Valley Conduit (Conduit). The following tasks have been completed:

- Preliminary Audit Tasks Communications were completed with each of the 38 project participants to inform them as to nature of the audits, and the data collection requirements. Audits were scheduled with all the project participants from August through October 2011.
- Audits Face to face meetings were conducted with all participants over the months starting in August and completed in October 2011. Data was collected using a standard form created based

on the M-36 Manual developed by AWWA. Major types of data collected during the audits included, but was not limited to: water source types and locations, water treatment requirements, master metering and testing, customer metering and testing, meter reading and billing procedures, water distribution characteristics (size and type of pipe), leak detection methods, recent history of leaks, unmetered and unbilled uses, and monthly water production and delivery.

- Perform Calculations Data was installed into a database to capture each of the types of data listed above to support summary data assessments and requisite calculations.
- White Papers Finalized A white paper was developed and delivered to each of the 38 Conduit
  participants that included an introduction, the objectives of the System Wide Audit, a summary
  of the results, water loss calculations, and recommendations.
- Final Report A final report was delivered to the District that summarized the findings and recommendations of the audit. The final report will be delivered to the CWCB in December 2012.

## Obstacles

A number of obstacles were encountered during project execution; however, none significantly impacted final project completion. It was found that the data provided by the various project participants to the District lacked consistency, given the various record keeping protocols and data collection methods utilized by the different organizations. One of the outcomes of the project is to help standardize the data collection and record keeping used by the Conduit participants.

The process of planning, scheduling and conducting the audits took more calendar time than anticipated during project planning. The data entry process also took substantially more time than anticipated since there was a large volume of handwritten data and map review required to populate the database. Budget Impacts There are no budget implications related to the current project progress and noted obstacles.

## **Major Findings**

The results of the project indicate that the audits as planned and executed have provided valuable information that will be used to improve the accuracy and focus of the Regional Water Conservation Plan. Data was used to characterize the age and number of meters, the age and type of pipe in the ground, the nature of leak detection and repair, and the nature of system water loss. These data was used to help focus future water loss management practices and protocols for the Conduit partners in the future.

These data findings and the report that was prepared to document the audits and the findings will be used to inform the preparation and completion of the Regional Water Conservation Plan.

Thank you for your support in the planning and implementation of our water conservation program. Our community has benefited greatly from the funding and technical assistance provided by the CWCB throughout this process. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully, Dean Van Pett

Jean Van Pelt

**Program-Project Coordinator** 

**CC:** Tracy Bouvette, Great Western Institute

**District Files**