STATE OF COLORADO

Colorado Water Conservation Board Department of Natural Resources

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John W. Hickenlooper

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Mike King

TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

FROM: Linda Bassi and Kaylea White

Stream and Lake Protection Section

DATE: March 8, 2013

RE: Agenda Item 7, March 19-20, 2013 Board Meeting-

Request for Authorization to Proceed to Trial

Case No. 1-02CW292: Application of Eldorado Artesian Springs, Inc.

This case is set for a five-day trial beginning on April 15, 2013. The parties are discussing settlement options and preparing for trial on a parallel track. Staff and the Attorney General's Office intend to discuss litigation strategy and settlement options with the Board in executive session.

Recommendation

Pursuant to ISF Rule 8j., Staff recommends that the Board authorize Staff to proceed to trial to protect its instream flow water rights in the event that Staff and the Attorney General's Office are unable to reach a settlement with the Applicant.

Background

In this case, Applicant seeks approval of a plan for augmentation to augment existing wells that are used for domestic, municipal and commercial purposes. The proposed source of replacement water consists mainly of Applicant's shares in Marshall Lake. Applicant may also rely on trucking its replacement water to the point of its depletions.

The CWCB filed a Statement of Opposition in January 2003 to protect its ISF water rights on South Boulder Creek.

