

CITY OF FLORENCE

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Arkansas Basin Roundtable

Attention: Gary Barber, Arkansas Basin Roundtable Chairperson

P.O. Box 1976

Colorado Springs, CO 80901

CC:

Bob Hartzman, Water Superintendent

City of Cañon City

103 Tunnel Drive

'Cañon City, CO 81212

Dear Chairperson Barber.

On behalf of the City of Florence, I am writing to urge you to support the efforts of City of Cañon City and their Royal Gorge Wildfire Water Quality Impact and Protection Project. On June 11, 2013 and the days that followed saw the Royal Gorge Fire burn 3,218 acres and the emergency mitigation, stabilization and reclamation work to recover and restore water shed areas for the reach of the Arkansas River that is impacted is of great importance to us. The process of restoring a burned water shed area will have long term benefits including helping to maintain water quality and reducing sediment loading of the river especially during high intensity summertime thunderstorm events.

Support of this project by the Arkansas Basin Roundtable is greatly needed to assist the City of Cañon City in these endeavors and will benefit many water purveyors and their customers, mutual ditch companies and their agricultural users, recreational enthusiasts and help protect the environment. Our water system currently serves water to users. As a result, our utility is concerned with issues that can affect our ability to provide an adequate supply of high quality water to the general public and our users.

As Chairperson for the Arkansas River Basin Roundtable, you are more aware than most of how water projects can protect public health, protect the environment, make fire protection possible, and promote recreational activities that are vital not only to a

community's long-term economic growth and stability, but also to others in the State of Colorado who rely upon the Arkansas River.

Please contact me at 7190784 4848 ext 222 if you have any questions.

Sincerely.

Mike Patterson