



COLORADO

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board

FROM: Steve Miller, Senior Water Resource Specialist
Interstate, Federal, and Water Information Section

DATE: August 29, 2014

SUBJECT: Agenda Item 18, September 11-12, 2014 Board Meeting
Interstate, Federal, and Water Information Section,
Colorado River Salinity Control Technical Assistance Grants Review and
Approve RFP Criteria

Introduction

In the 2014 Projects Bill (HB14-1333, section 9) the Board was authorized to provide technical assistance grants to enhance participation in the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program ("CRBSCP"). Staff has developed draft grant criteria to be used in the selection of entities to receive these technical assistance grants. The criteria will be forthcoming under separate cover.

The program will offer funding for engineering services to non-federal irrigation systems in high salinity loading areas of the Gunnison Basin and allow them to more effectively compete in the CRBSCP. These entities would receive between \$3,000 to \$10,000 reimbursement for engineering services to evaluate and design enhancements to their existing irrigation systems. In addition, the engineers will consider opportunities to realign and combine systems and will produce credible designs and cost-estimates. That information will enable irrigators to better compete for significant federal funding available in the 2015 CRBSCP Funding Opportunity Announcement ("2015 FOA") and more effectively utilize any such funds awarded. The Colorado River District and USBR will participate in the selection of the individual technical assistance grants.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board approve the Colorado River Salinity Control Technical Assistance Grants RFP Criteria.

