

Water Supply Reserve Account – Grant and Loan Program
Water Activity Summary Sheet
January 26-27, 2015
Agenda Item 22(a)

Applicant & Program Sponsor: Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District

Water Activity Name: Lower Arkansas Valley Water Quality and Water Use Efficiency Working Group

Water Activity Purpose: Study

County: n/a

Drainage Basin: Arkansas

Water Source: Arkansas River & tributaries

Total Amount Requested: \$29,460

Source of Funds: Arkansas Basin Account

Matching Funds: Total Applicant & 3rd party match (cash & in-kind) \$42,564.20 = 59% of total project costs (\$72,021); (refer to *Funding Summary/Matching Funds*)

Staff Recommendation:
Staff recommends approval of up to \$29,460 from the Arkansas Basin Account to help fund the project titled: Lower Arkansas Valley Water Quality and Water Use Efficiency Working Group

Water Activity Summary: WSRA funds will be expended to form a technical group and provide technical assistance related to permitting, feasibility studies, and environmental compliance. SECWCD is proposing a working group to bring together key stakeholders: CDPHE staff members and water providers within the Lower Arkansas Basin affected by new state regulatory actions, specifically Solid Waste Regulation (Section 9).

This working group would explore short-term options for these water providers, as many do not have the resources to comply with the new regulation. The working group will discuss options and feasibility for these providers as they await an operational Arkansas Valley Conduit, which will solve many of these issues.

The grant will facilitate greater communication between state agencies and water providers seeking to come into compliance with new regulations, in the face of this short term situation.

The application proposes three objectives to be accomplished by the working group:

- Identify workable solutions for the appropriate management of water resources in the lower Arkansas Valley in light of AVC supplies that are planned to replace currently impacted water sources.
- Support local water companies that have limited financing options available to maintain and upgrade infrastructure and sustain regulatory response investments.

- Develop a consistent application of the applicable or relevant regulations to entities that are either directly or indirectly impacted.

Discussion:

CWCB staffers familiar with water quality issues in the Lower Arkansas Basin have reviewed this grant and believe that the effort is a very worthwhile manner to address short-term M&I water treatment issues.

Issues/Additional Needs:

No issues or additional needs have been identified.

Threshold and Evaluation Criteria:

The application meets all four Threshold Criteria

Tier 1-3 Evaluation Criteria:

n/a

Funding Summary/Matching Funds:

	<u>Cash</u>	<u>In-kind</u>	<u>Total</u>
WSRA Arkansas Basin Account	\$29,460	n/a	\$29,460
Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District	\$7,500	\$10,791	\$18,291
Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy District	<u>\$7,500</u>	<u>\$16,770</u>	<u>\$24,270</u>
Total Project Costs	\$44,460	\$27,561	\$70,021

All products, data and information developed as a result of this grant must be provided to the CWCB in hard copy and electronic format as part of the project documentation. This information will in turn be made widely available to Basin Roundtables and the general public and will help promote the development of a common technical platform. In accordance with the revised WSRA Criteria and Guidelines, staff would like to highlight additional reporting and final deliverable requirements. The specific requirements are provided below.

Reporting: The applicant shall provide the CWCB a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of the executed contract. The progress report shall describe the completion or partial completion of the tasks identified in the scope of work including a description of any major issues that have occurred and any corrective action taken to address these issues.

Final Deliverable: At completion of the project, the applicant shall provide the CWCB a final report that summarizes the project and documents how the project was completed. This report may contain photographs, summaries of meetings and engineering reports/designs.

Engineering: All engineering work (as defined in the Engineers Practice Act (§12-25-102(10) C.R.S.)) performed under this grant shall be performed by or under the responsible charge of professional engineer licensed by the State of Colorado to practice Engineering.