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Craig Godbout
Program Manager, WSRA Program
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver, Colorado 80203

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Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Dear Craig,

The South Metro Water Supply Authority (SMWSA) is a highly motivated and collaborative group of municipal and quasi-municipal water service providers in the South Metro Denver area, who are very actively engaged in the development on long-range conjunctive use water supply planning that is predicated on moving renewable water into our services areas through collaborative agreements and infrastructure.

Over the past 35 years, Denver Basin groundwater levels have been in decline in the northern El Paso County area, and the declines are expected to contribute to the water supply gap for many Front Range communities. Despite improved outdoor water conservation, in-home fixture efficiencies and current or planned reuse projects, many communities throughout the region will need to replace their non-renewable Denver Basin supplies, while also planning for some measure of reasonable economic growth. In an effort to address the water supply gap and transition to managed conjunctive use of Denver Basin water resources with renewable water resources, the Pikes Peak Regional Water Authority has requested WSRA grant funds for a follow-up limited scope investigation to the initial 2013-2015 Water Infrastructure Feasibility Study project. This Phase 2 study has a limited geographic scope focused on the northern El Paso County I-25 corridor, and the scope of work entails an appraisal level preliminary engineering study for collaborative water infrastructure facilities in northern El Paso County (referred to as Area 3 in the Study). The proposed collaboratively developed infrastructure in northern El Paso County will facilitate more efficient storage, distribution, and reuse of local water resources, and it will be a milestone towards minimizing the gap and developing long-range deliveries of renewable water to that area that depends heavily on the Denver Basin.

This is a matter of both regional and statewide importance and addresses a significant portion of the M&I front range M&I gap. Upon review and consideration of this grant application, the South Metro Water Supply Authority recommends that the CWCB look favorably upon the \$100,000 in funding from the WSRA Statewide account for this application.

Please call if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Eric Hecox
Executive Director