

THE COLORADO BASIN ROUNDTABLE
C/O P.O. BOX 1120
GLENWOOD SPRINGS, COLORADO
81602

March 2, 2015

Craig Godbout
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Water Supply Planning Section
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Dear Craig:

The Colorado Basin Roundtable voted unanimously at its Feb. 24, 2015, meeting to approve the Grand Valley Water Users Association grant request for \$45,000 in Water Supply Reserve Account funds.

The funding will be well leveraged by other cash and in-kind services, as detailed on page 8 of the application. The Roundtable recognizes the importance of the GVVUA, its roller dam and its Government Highline Canal for the roles they play in dependable water rights administration, agriculture and environmental actions regarding recovery of the endangered fish. The association will use the funds to conduct an intensive Water Management Plan in order to protect infrastructure and to address conservation measures.

To quote from the application: "The funding that we are requesting will allow GVVUA to prepare a conditional assessment of the canal segments, identify and document water losses, identify priority projects, conduct a benefits assessment, including those potentially accruing to external interests, ascertain environmental concerns, determine cost associated with the projects and create a strategic funding plan to implement the priority projects. It will also allow the Association to honor commitments made in the Colorado River Cooperative Agreement (CRCA) and incorporate them into Association planning."

This effort addresses directly two of the six themes in the CBRT Basin Implementation Plan: Sustain Agriculture and Assure Dependable Basin Water Rights Administration. Potentially, findings of the study might find opportunities for the canal to run more efficiently, saving water in Green Mountain Reservoir. Furthermore, actions to bolster provisions of the Colorado River Cooperative Agreement are important as the CRCA support projects and processes to improve the main stem of the river.

We commend the GVVUA for taking an aggressive approach to analyzing a system that is essential not only to the Grand Valley, but the whole main stem of the river.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jim Pokrandt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Jim Pokrandt
Chair, Colorado Basin Roundtable

Attachment: CFWE grant applications