

# THE ARKANSAS BASIN ROUNDTABLE

August 4, 2015

Brent Newman - WSRA Application  
Colorado Water Conservation Board  
1313 Sherman St., Room 721  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mr. Newman,

The Arkansas Basin Roundtable has reviewed and is in support of the Water Supply Reserve Account Grant Application from the Box Springs Canal and Reservoir Company (BSCRC). The Roundtable approved the request of \$50,000 from the Arkansas Basin account on June 10, 2015. The BSCRC is also requesting \$150,000 from the Statewide account. This project is important to the basin since it will strive to help ensure that the communities served by the waters of the lower Arkansas River have adequate and reliable water supplies to meet current needs and the needs of the future.

The BSCRC has requested funding to assist with agricultural improvements and securing a sustainable water supply that will ensure the success and integrity of farming practices in the area. This grant will assist in the final stages of necessary well rehabilitation and implementation of an innovative new well drilling technology, called horizontal wells. Farm improvements in three main areas could dramatically change the current farming management practices. These include: moving from flood irrigation with earthen ditches to center pivot irrigation; construction of a pipeline to deliver surface water and fully capture underground spring water when it surfaces in the winter and early spring; and the construction of horizontal well batteries.

The project is crucial to overall success, integrity, and sustainability of farming practices in the area. The employment of horizontal wells will greatly increase the ability to fully extract and use this water to its fullest extent. The project has the ability to lead as an example and be transferable across the state. This project would also be progressive in Colorado ground water and would fully unleash an invaluable resource.

Sincerely,



James W. Broderick  
Arkansas Basin Roundtable Chair