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James Eklund, CWCB Director

| TO: | Colorado Water Conservation Board Members |
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| FROM: | Linda Bassi, Section Chief and Kaylea White, Senior Water Resource Specialist Stream and Lake Protection Section |
| DATE: | January 25-26, 2016 |
| AGENDA ITEM: | # 13. Request for Authorization to Proceed to Trial in Case No. 2- 12CW125 (Application of the United States of America and Park Center Water District) |

This case is set for a 5 day trial beginning on February 23, 2016. The parties are discussing settlement options and preparing for trial on a parallel track. Staff and Attorney General's Office will discuss litigation strategy and settlement options with the Board in Executive Session.

Background:

In this case, Applicant seeks a plan for augmentation to provide replacement water for depletions causes by the Park Center Well. The Park Center Well diversions will be used for domestic, municipal and irrigation uses by the Park Center District via direct flow and storage. The Applicant's proposed plan for augmentation and exchange may not replace depletions in the amount, timing or location at which they occur, which could injure the CWCB's instream flow water right on Fourmile Creek decreed in Case No. 2-00CW105, to preserve the natural environment.

The CWCB filed a Statement of Opposition on 2/28/2013 to protect its ISF water rights on the Fourmile Creek.

Staff Recommendation:

Pursuant to ISF Rule 8j., Staff recommends that the Board authorize Staff to proceed to trial to protect its instream flow water rights in the event that Staff and the Attorney General's Office are unable to reach a settlement with Applicant before trial.



