



January 22, 2016

Dear Mr. Wade,

The Grand Valley domestic water providers are pleased to provide the 75% Progress Report for Water Efficiency Grant-PO# OE PDA 14000000066. Also attached are two invoices for reimbursement.

During July of 2015, the Center for ReSource Conservation, on behalf of the City of Grand Junction, Ute Water Conservancy District and Clifton Water District, conducted irrigation audits for 36 residential customers using domestic water for outdoor irrigation. Nineteen of the audits were City of Grand Junction customers and seventeen were Clifton Water District customers. No UTE Water Conservancy customers were audited.

As per the grant guidelines the following areas of interest are addressed below:

The success of meeting previously identified goals and objectives

The Grand Valley Regional Water Conservation Plan sited 10 residential audits per year for the next 10 years. The grant was designed to accelerate that process by doing 100 audits in one year. The grant included funding for 100 residential audits of outdoor irrigation systems by the Center for ReSource Conservation (CRC). Despite direct mailings and phone follow ups with targeted high use residential customers, the three domestic water providers were only able to find 36 customers who agreed to participate in the audits.

Obstacles encountered

Getting customers to participate in the program was the biggest obstacle. There may be several reasons for the low participation, 2015 was a relatively "wet" water year and so drought was not on many customer's mind. Most of UTE water's customers are on one of the Grand Valley's many ditch companies for outdoor watering and so were not part of this program. With the Colorado River in our back yard and many canals flowing through the valley, there is probably a perception that there is plenty of water available. The cost of treated domestic water in most cases is not prohibitive enough to prevent some outdoor uses.

Preliminary findings or accomplishments

The data we have received from the audits seems to indicate that most of the systems tested have some degree of deficiency, like tilted heads, overspray, and poor spacing. It appears that most customers are over watering and not practicing cycle and soak watering methods. None appear to have ET systems.

The feedback from customers on the audits themselves was very positive. The City of Grand Junction and Clifton water will be monitoring the audited customers over the next few years to see if there has been any changes to their outdoor water use.

Potential need for revisions to the scope of work and timelines

Since the audits have been completed and a final report submitted by CRC, there are no revisions for this particular grant. Future programs and projects related to outdoor water use are currently being discussed by the three water providers via our DRIP water conservation committee. We



feel a local auditor(s) with local connections and knowledge that can be more flexible with schedules would be a better fit for the Grand Valley. We are discussing potential education opportunities and seminars we could sponsor to educate our customers on outdoor water efficiencies. We are looking to partner with local irrigation system suppliers to help provide those opportunities. In the past we have worked with the local Colorado State University Extension office, they have lost most of their staff so we will be looking perhaps to the Colorado Mesa University Water Center for future education assistance.

Thank you for the opportunity to further the community's water efficiency goals through this grant program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rick Brinkman". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "R" and a long, horizontal flourish at the end.

Rick Brinkman
City of Grand Junction
Water Services Manager