

SOUTHWEST BASINS ROUNDTABLE

Michael Preston, Chair

c/o Dolores Water Conservancy District

P.O. Box 1150

Cortez, Colorado 81321

970-565-7562

January 15, 2016

Mr. Craig Godbout

Water Supply Management Section

Colorado Water Conservation Board

1580 Logan Street, Suite 600

Denver, Colorado 80203

SUBJECT: Animas River Community Forum, \$37,850 from Southwest Basin Account

Dear Mr. Godbout:

The Southwest Basin Roundtable approved funding of \$37,850 from the Basin Account for Animas River Community Forum. The application was considered in detail and approved at the January 13, 2016 meeting of the Southwest Basin Roundtable. There was a quorum of Roundtable members present.

The Animas is the largest river in the Southwest Basin. The Southwest Basin Implementation Plan includes a number of IPPs involving water quality, watershed health and efforts to deal with mineralization and abandoned mine drainage in the Silverton area.

The proposed project supports the involvement of all Animas River communities affected by the mine spill in the summer of 2015; and promotes information sharing and cooperation by citizens interacting with local, state and federal agencies. The Animas Community Forum is aimed at a full understanding of the ramifications of the mine spill as well as a community based evaluation of preparedness and response issues.

The Forum will generate lessons learned that can be of use to the many other communities in Southwest Colorado and throughout the State that live below abandoned mines. Accordingly, the Roundtable views this project as a Matter of State Interest eligible for funding from the State account. The Roundtable decided to cover this phase of the work from the Basin account to avoid any uncertainty in funding this project given the timely need to continue this important process. The Roundtable would like to hold the door open for a request from the Statewide account at some point in the future to the extent that the Forum continues beyond the scope of the proposed project.

The completed Grant Application will be forwarded directly to you by the applicant. Please contact the applicant directly or me at 970-565-7562, mpreston@frontier.net, if you have questions or wish to discuss this application in more detail.

Sincerely,



Michael Preston

Southwest Basin Roundtable Chair