

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

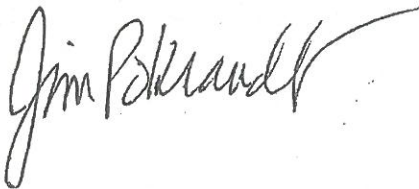
Dec. 10, 2015

**Craig Godbout**  
**Colorado Water Conservation Board**  
**Water Supply Planning Section**  
1313 Sherman Street  
 [\(303\) 866-3441, ext 3210](tel:(303)866-3441) (office)  
 [\(970\) 218-9407](tel:(970)218-9407) (cell)  
[craig.godbout@state.co.us](mailto:craig.godbout@state.co.us)

Dear Craig:

The Colorado Basin Roundtable has been asked to lend its support to the Duke Ditch piping project in the Gunnison Basin. This we can do.

The piping of the 2.7 mile earthen canal will address the sustainability of agriculture by eliminating seepage losses and thus the ensuing salt loading that occurs. It will create an efficiency savings of 364 acre feet a year and improve water quality by preventing 383 tons of year of salt loading. While this project is in another basin, the Gunnison is a major tributary of the Colorado River and it is in our interest to see water efficiency and water quality improvements in the system.



Jim Pokrandt  
Chair, Colorado Basin Roundtable

*The Gunnison Basin Roundtable  
501 Palmer Street  
Delta, CO 81416*

February 9, 2016

Mr. Craig Godbout  
Water Supply Management Section  
COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD  
1313 Sherman St., Room 718  
Denver, CO 80203

Re: WSRA Grant Request: The Duke Ditch Company – Duke Ditch Piping Project

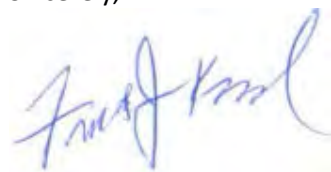
Dear Mr. Godbout:

This letter is presented to advise you that the grant application submitted by The Duke Ditch Company for \$47,237 from Basin Account funds and \$47,237 in Statewide Account funds from the Water Supply Reserve Account for the Duke Ditch Piping project was reviewed by the Gunnison Basin Roundtable and its Project Screening Committee and was approved by a unanimous vote of the Gunnison Basin Roundtable during our meeting on February 1, 2016.

This water activity meets the provisions of Section 37-75-104(2), Colorado Revised Statutes. The requirements/language from the statute is provided in Part 3 of the Criteria and Guidelines.

The primary purpose of this project is agricultural irrigation water supply. One of the shareholders is a residential neighborhood, so providing outdoor lawn and garden water supply for these users reduces the local demand from the municipal water supply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Frank J. Kugel".

Frank J. Kugel  
Vice Chair

cc: Hugh Sanburg (e-mail)  
Tom Alvey (e-mail)



**Delta Conservation District** 690 Industrial Blvd, Delta, CO 81416

[www.DeltaCD.net](http://www.DeltaCD.net)

970.874.5726 x121

[deltaconservationd@gmail.com](mailto:deltaconservationd@gmail.com)

December 23, 2015

Colorado Water Conservation Board

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The Duke Ditch has been given preliminary BSP funding approval for a piped underground irrigation delivery system. The award is in the amount of \$464,757.00. Preliminary project design was completed by the NRCS engineering staff in Delta. Full contract and design work is expected to proceed in 2016.

Regards,

Suzie Bilberry

Manager

Delta Conservation District



## COLORADO

Division of Water Resources

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 821  
Denver, CO 80203

December 30, 2015

Craig Godbout - WSRA Application  
Colorado Water Conservation Board  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 721  
Denver, CO 80203  
Craig.godbout@state.co.us

Dear Mr. Godbout:

The Colorado Office of the State Engineer (SEO) is pleased to provide a letter of support for the "Duke Ditch Piping Project." As the administrative agent overseeing the diversion of water in Colorado, our support is based on our understanding that the project fulfills the State's objectives regarding solutions to water quality, while acknowledging the need to divert and use the State's water only in harmony with Colorado's system of water rights.

Our support is further bolstered by our understanding that the project is consistent with Section 37-75-102, Colorado Revised Statutes (CRS) and will not attempt to repeal or, in any manner, amend the existing water rights adjudication system. Nor will the project conflict with the operation of, or cause injury to, any decreed water right or permitted well. Additionally, it is our understanding that this project would not impair our ability to comply with the Colorado River Compact, the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact, or Section 37-80-104, CRS regarding my duties to ensure compliance with interstate compacts.

The proposed project also appears consistent with the Colorado Water Plan, which includes goals of protecting irrigated agriculture and actions to advance integrated water quantity and quality actions and to develop and implement funding mechanisms for the protection, restoration, or enhancement of water quality values in river or stream reaches.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dick Wolfe, M.S., P.E.  
State Engineer, Director





Town of Hotchkiss  
276 W Main St. - P.O. Box 369  
Hotchkiss, Colorado 81419  
(970) 872-3663

WENDELL A. KOONTZ  
Mayor

MARLENE SEARLE  
Town Clerk

December 10, 2015

Gunnison Basin Roundtable  
Colorado Water Conservation Board

To Whom It May Concern:

We understand that the Duke Ditch Company is applying for grants to provide partial funding for the piping of their ditch. This irrigation ditch supplies water to agricultural lands adjacent to the Town of Hotchkiss, as well as a residential area that lies within the town's boundaries. Piping this irrigation delivery system will improve the efficiency and reliability of this system. Improving this ditch will not only support our local agricultural economy, but also improve the delivery of water supplied to the Willow Heights neighborhood for outdoor use. If the Duke Ditch did not reliably supply this residential demand, these demands would be placed on the Hotchkiss municipal water supply.

The Town Council supports this effort to modernize water delivery infrastructure, and encourages the Gunnison Basin Roundtable and the Colorado Water Conservation Board to approve this funding request.

Sincerely,

Wendell A. Koontz, Mayor

Town of Hotchkiss

TRUSTEES

Lindee Cantrell, Dustyn Foster, Carrie Wingfield, James Roberts, Thomas Wills, Larry Jakubiak





**COLORADO**  
Department of Agriculture  
Conservation Services Division

December 11, 2015

Gunnison Basin Roundtable  
Colorado Water Conservation Board

Dear Reviewers,

As the Lower Gunnison Field Coordinator for the Bureau of Reclamation's Colorado River Salinity Control Program, I whole-heartedly support the Duke Ditch Piping Project and urge you to provide the funding requested to complete financing for this project. The Duke Ditch Board has pursued funding for over 2 years, and now has the opportunity to proceed with piping their ditch. This project would improve the efficiency and security of agricultural water delivery, reduce ditch maintenance costs, and improve water quality in the Colorado River. These improvements will help meet our State and Colorado River basin-wide goals to decrease salinity and selenium, improving water quality for endangered fish and downstream users, while also supporting existing agricultural users by modernizing aging infrastructure. Water Supply Reserve Account funding requested is a small (13%) but essential portion of the funding for this project. The Duke Ditch Board has pursued all funding options available, and is unlikely to be able to complete this project without your support.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this application. I hope that you will find it worthy of funding their full request.

Sincerely,

Beth A. Karberg  
Salinity Field Coordinator  
Lower Gunnison Basin  
[beth.karberg@state.co.us](mailto:beth.karberg@state.co.us)  
970-874-5726 ext. 111

