



November 13, 2017

Ben Wade
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Room 721
Denver, CO 80203

Re: 25% Progress Report on the Town of Castle Rock's Drought Plan Development

Dear Mr. Wade:

The Town of Castle Rock (Town) has completed 25% of the level of effort necessary to develop the Drought Management Plan. Per requirements of CWCB's *Grant Guidelines for Drought Mitigation Plans*, this letter addresses the following: success of meeting previously identified goals and objectives; encountered obstacles; preliminary findings and accomplishments; and revisions to the schedule.

The main objectives of this planning effort are to develop an effective drought management plan that integrates the knowledge of Town staff with the values of the community while following CWCB planning guidance. Thus far to date, we have successfully accomplished acquiring the majority of information necessary to complete the initial five sections of the drought plan in accordance with planning steps 1-6 of CWCB's Municipal Drought Management Plan Guidance Document. We have held two Drought Committee meetings, the first was held August 30 and the second on October 17. The meetings were approximately 3 hours long, well attended, and resulted in key input that will shape the drought plan. During the first Drought Committee meeting we discussed the objectives, operating principles and water use priorities; historical drought impacts and future drought vulnerability; and drought mitigation and response strategies. The second Drought Committee Meeting focused on refinement of meeting #1 outcomes and discussion that will shape the development of a staged drought response program.

One particular challenge we identified during this planning effort is coming up with appropriate drought triggers and indicators due to the current reliance on groundwater supplies for the majority of the Town's water. We plan to address this particular challenge by also looking at surrounding drought stages related to Aurora WISE water and Denver Water so that we can be in sync with regional conditions and restrictions. Our system is also unique in that high temperatures can affect demand and our capacity to provide treated water is limited. In addition we could have major equipment failures in our wells, independent of weather conditions, that could trigger water restrictions similar to a drought response.

We have currently not encountered any specific obstacles with the plan development. We have been able to acquire the information necessary to continue to make progress and found that we have had good engagement from our drought planning committee. Due to scheduling conflicts the second drought committee meeting was pushed from late September into mid-October, thus our original schedule has been pushed out about a month. The first draft of the document is targeted to be provided by Amec Foster Wheeler to the Drought Committee for review in early December.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kurtis Cotten', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kurtis Cotten, P.E.
Water Resources Program Analyst