



## MEMORANDUM

July 3, 2024

**TO:** Board of Directors, Colorado Water Conservation Board, and Director Lauren Ris,

**FROM:** Keith McLaughlin, Executive Director

**RE:** Colorado Water Resources & Power Development Authority (“Authority”) Director’s Report

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### **Drinking Water Revolving Fund (DWRF)**

Two (2) DWRF loan applications were approved at the Authority’s June 7<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. The **Project 7 Water Authority** in the amount of \$3 million (Base) for design and engineering and preconstruction costs for the project constructing a raw water transmission line and intake structure downstream of the Ridgway Reservoir; and the **Town of Ridgway** in the amount of \$650,000 (Base) for replacing the aging ductile iron pipe that connects the Town's treated water tank to the original pressure reducing station.

We have closed thirteen (13) total loans under the DWRF Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) program for approximately \$102.6 million in BIL principal forgiveness and \$60.7 million in BIL loan funds. In 2024, we closed five (5) DWRF design and engineering loan, for approximately \$1.2 million.

As of July 3, 2024, and after taking into account the submitted loan applications for the Authority’s August Board meeting, the estimated remaining DWRF loan capacity for 2024 is approximately \$60 million (including 2024 BIL infrastructure funds and the 2024 capitalization grants). We are expecting up to 6 DWRF loan applications for consideration at our August Board meeting for approximately \$61 million.

### **Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund (WPCRF)**

One (1) WPCRF loan application was approved at the Authority’s June 7<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. The **Clifton Sanitation District** in the amount of \$3 million (Base Green Project Reserve) for a project that consists of construction of four acres of solar panels.

We have closed fourteen (14) total loans under the WPCRF BIL program for approximately \$13.4 million in BIL principal forgiveness and \$12.3 million in BIL loan funds. In 2024, we closed three (3) WPCRF design and engineering loans, for approximately \$753,000.

As of July 3, 2024, and after taking into account the submitted loan applications for the Authority’s August Board meeting, the estimated remaining WPCRF loan capacity for 2024 is approximately \$30.5 million (including 2024 BIL infrastructure funds and the 2024 capitalization grants). We are expecting three WPCRF loan applications for consideration at our August Board meeting for approximately \$6.5 million.

### **EPA Capitalization Grants**

Congress maintains level funding for the SRF's in FFY 2024, but continues to use EPA capitalization grants to pay for congressional earmarks. The 2022, 2023 and 2024 EPA capitalization grants (net of earmarks) represent a 56% cut from 2021 grants.

### **Legislative Matters**

The SJR24-004, 2024 project eligibility list contains 545 Drinking Water projects for an estimated need of approximately \$28.3 billion and 383 wastewater projects for an estimated need of approximately \$18.3 billion.

In the Spring of 2024 the Authority joined a coalition of agencies, associations, authorities and other entities nationally to the Council of Infrastructure Financing Authority's (CIFA) "[Save the SRF](#)" campaign. The mission of the "Save the SRF" campaign is to advocate for full funding, \$3b each fund, for the two SRF programs.

### **Other Matters**

The Authority continues to work closely with the CWCB and the SECWCD staff regarding funding for the Arkansas Valley Conduit.

### **Future Authority Board Meetings**

August 21, 2024 – Colorado Springs, Joint Board Meeting with the Water Quality Control Commission.

October 4, 2024 – Location TBD

December 6, 2024 -- Denver