TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members
FROM: Andrea Harbin Monahan, Watershed Scientist
       Watershed & Flood Protection Section
DATE: September 15, 2021
AGENDA ITEM: Agenda Item 24 - Temporary Use Permit - Xcel Energy

Staff Recommendation:
Staff recommends board approval of the Temporary Use Permit for Xcel Energy.

Background:
As the non-federal sponsor for the Chatfield Downstream Channel Construction Project, the CWCB owns and operates a federally constructed flood control project from the outlet of Chatfield Reservoir to the confluence of Bear Creek. The CWCB has also developed lands management and access processes. The Board has authority to grant requests for easements and special use permits in the CWCB right-of-way. A 1998 Master Recreation Agreement with South Suburban Parks and Recreation covers most of the activity. However, periodically there are other requests to access the CWCB-owned parcels.

The CWCB also offers the opportunity for Temporary Use Permits to be issued, and in this case it was deemed to be the ideal method of granting Xcel Energy the necessary access to perform their work.

Xcel Energy is scheduled to work on it’s Greenwood-Denver Terminal Transmission Project, which requires the replacement of conductors that currently cross the South Platte River north of West Belleview Ave and west of Santa Fe Drive. The work is scheduled to be performed in December 2021/January 2022.

None of Xcel’s infrastructure is located within the CWCB-owned parcel (the utility poles are located outside of the parcel), but the transmission line crosses the river across the CWCB-owned parcel and Xcel will need to access the property to complete their work. Working with the Colorado Attorney General’s office, we have developed a Temporary Use Permit to allow Xcel Energy to access the property for the duration of time necessary to complete their tasks.