

## **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

District 1 – Cody Davis 970-244-1605
District 2 – Bobbie Daniel 970-244-1604
District 3 – JJ Fletcher 970-244-1606

July 3, 2025

Via Email (Only): jackie.calicchio@coag.gov

Jackie Calicchio
Hearing Officer
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver, Colorado 80203

Re:

Request for Party Status Regarding Shoshone Water Rights for Instream Flow Use on the Colorado River, Water Division 5

Dear Hearing Officer Calicchio:

On behalf of the Mesa County Board of County Commissioners, this letter serves as Mesa County's formal request for party status in the upcoming hearing on the proposed acquisition of an interest in the Shoshone Water Rights for instream flow use.

## **Identification of Applicant**

This request is submitted on behalf of Mesa County, Colorado, a local governmental entity directly impacted by the proposed acquisition of an interest of the Shoshone Water Rights for instream flow use.

## Representative Contact Information

Todd Starr, Esq. Mesa County Attorney 544 Rood Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Grand Junction, CO 81501 Phone: (970) 244-1612

## Summary of Policy, Factual, and Legal Issues with the

Colorado River Water Conservation District ("River District") and Public Service Company of Colorado "(PSCo") are offering Colorado Water Conservation Board ("CWCB") an interest in the Shoshone Water Rights for instream flow. This acquisition will help secure sustainable and assured water supply for Colorado citizens. The agreement that River District, PSCo, and CWCB want to enter into will safeguard the history, values, traditions, and way of life for future generations in Colorado and the Western Slope.

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There are concerns that if the acquisition by CWCB of an interest in the Shoshone Water Rights for instream flow does not occur, then the citizens of Mesa County and the Western Slope could be adversely affected.

Mesa County requests party status so that it can fully participate in the hearing, provide input on the issues, and advocate for the vest rights of its citizens during this process. If Mesa County is not granted party status, it could adversely affect its citizens and businesses.

Thank you for considering Mesa County's request for party status. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact us.

Sincerely,

**Bobbie Daniel** 

Mesa County Commissioner

CC: Todd Hollenbeck, Mesa County Administrator

Todd Starr, Mesa County Attorney