

BEFORE THE COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF PROPOSED INSTREAM FLOW ACQUISITION DIVISION 5: SHOSHONE

NOTICE OF PARTY STATUS: CITY OF RIFLE

Pursuant to 2 CCR 408-2 6m.(5)(e), City of Rifle hereby submits its Notice of Party Status as follows:

1. Name and Mailing Addresses:

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Please also copy:
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City of Rifle
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Rifle, Colorado 81650
pwaller@rifleco.org
970.665.6409

2. Basis for Party Status:

The City of Rifle is a signatory to the Colorado River Cooperative Agreement, which seeks among other things to maintain the flow regime generated by the operation of the Shoshone Power Plant water rights and to facilitate the acquisition of the Shoshone water rights by a Western Slope government entity. Rifle has pledged \$100,000 toward the acquisition of these water rights by the Colorado River Water Conservation District for donation to the Colorado Water Conservation Board. Given this history, Rifle has a direct and immediate interest in the subject matter of this hearing.

Communities large and small along the Colorado River mainstem benefit from the enhanced water quality the Shoshone flows provide, diluting pollutants in source water supplies used for drinking water in towns like Glenwood Springs, New Castle, Silt, Rifle, Palisade, Clifton, and the greater Grand Valley area. Without the higher flows provided by the Shoshone call, Rifle and other municipal suppliers experience higher pollutant concentrations in our supply sources, which increase costs to the public to achieve regulatory compliance for municipal drinking and wastewater treatment.

The City of Rifle is downstream from the Shoshone diversion and will be directly impacted by the proposed acquisition and use of the Shoshone Water Rights for Instream Flow Use. These impacts include but are not limited to the City's existing decreed water rights directly on the Colorado River and on its' tributaries, the impact on the natural environment within and

immediately adjacent to the City limits, both up and downstream, and the costs of acquisition. Notably the City relies on the Colorado River as its primary source for drinking water and maintaining the current flows in the Colorado River are critical to both the quantity and quality of water for the City.

Dated this 9th day of July 2025.



Karl J. Hanlon, Esq., Special Counsel
City of Rifle