



March 29, 2017

Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426

**Re: Gross Reservoir Hydroelectric Project, P-2035
(Docket Number P-2035-099)**

Dear Secretary;

The Board of Directors of Platte Canyon Water and Sanitation District strongly supports approval of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) approval of Denver Water's License Amended Application for operation of hydroelectric facilities at Gross Dam. The FERC license is only a part of the larger plan to expand Gross Reservoir to provide additional water capacity in a reliable, sustainable manner to the City of Denver and 65 suburban water providers.

Platte Canyon is one of 65 suburban Denver Water providers and serves a population of 19,483 in Jefferson, Arapahoe and Douglas Counties. The District is totally reliant upon water supplied by Denver water to serve 6,710 residential and 119 commercial customers. Through extensive water conservation programs, Platte Canyon has significantly reduced the per capita usage of water within its service area. However, the region has experienced tremendous growth that drives the need for additional reliable water supplies.

For over 60 years Platte Canyon has taken an active interest in, and supported Denver Water's development of water resources. The District's involvement has been focused on assurance of adequate and reliable water supplies to serve a broad range of uses within the District as well as a significant portion of the Denver Metropolitan area. Gross Reservoir expansion supports these critical goals by adding 18,000 acre feet of firm, annual, reliable yield to the water system. This is extremely important to Platte Canyon as it continues to experience population and employment growth that will soon strain the ability of current water supplies to support.

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The ability of Denver Water to provide water service throughout the entire water system is currently compromised by an unbalanced supply system. Approximately 90 percent of system storage is in the south system and only 10 percent in the north system, which includes Gross Reservoir. Platte Canyon is very concerned that an emergency or natural disaster on either end of the system could severely limit Denver Water's ability to serve all portions of the system. The proposed Moffat project will reduce the vulnerability on the north side of the Denver Water system from drought, potential man made disasters and natural disasters such as climate change. Strengthening the northern portion of the Denver Water's system protects the southern portion of the system through which Platte Canyon draws its water supply.

In conclusion, Platte Canyon urges FERC to proceed with the necessary approvals to amend Denver Water's existing hydroelectric license.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pat Fitzgerald".

Patrick Fitzgerald
District Manager

PJF/blb