



CRESTVIEW WATER & SANITATION DISTRICT

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Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

March 8, 2017

RE: Gross Reservoir Hydroelectric Project, docket number P-2035-099

Crestview Water and Sanitation District has just short of 4,800 service connections and serves a population of approximately 20,000 in the southwest corner of Adams County. Crestview is a distributor of Denver Water. Crestview and its customers participate in Denver Water's conservation efforts to save water and money. We have seen a decline of 23 percent over the past twenty years however, even with the significant conservation efforts, we still need additional water supplies for the ever expanding Denver metro area.

The 2002 drought showed vulnerabilities in the north end of Denver Water's distribution system. Additional raw water storage on the north end of Denver Water's service area is crucial to the sustainability of Denver's continued growth.

The always concerning possibility of natural disasters in Denver Water's southern collection system which provides approximately 90 percent of Denver's water supplies, could cause a considerable strain on the ability of the northern collection system to supply adequate treated water supplies to the metro area unless increased raw water storage is attained, namely in Gross Reservoir. We're concerned that if an emergency or natural disaster on either end of Denver Water's supply system occurs, communities that rely on the system face the real possibility of running out of water. Expanding the capacity of Gross Reservoir will help protect Crestview and surrounding areas from the worst consequences of a range of possible emergencies – whether they be the effects of climate change, wildfires, floods, or other crises that might impact one or more of Denver Water's critical watersheds.


As a water and sanitation district receiving water from Denver Water, we support the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) approval of Denver Water's License Amendment Application. While the amended license – and approval to increase production of hydropower that it will provide – is critical, it is part of a much larger program envisioned by a broad coalition of stakeholders from across the state. The larger program will also enable the expansion of Gross Reservoir, which will provide storage for a reliable supply that our customers need.

Our customers rely on the collection, treatment and distribution of water from Denver Water. Availability of this product is vital to the community we serve. As the state continues to see an

increase in population, we have to prepare for greater demand on our water supplies. Even with conservation measures in place – which have proven to be significant as earlier mentioned – our current customers and those in the future can't conserve their way to water security.

Crestview Water and Sanitation District urges FERC to proceed with the necessary approvals to amend Denver Water's existing hydropower license; the next step to enable this critical program to move forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mitchell T. Terry". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M" and a long, sweeping tail.

Mitchell T. Terry
District Manager
Crestview Water & Sanitation District