

CHERRY CREEK VILLAGE WATER DISTRICT
c/o Community Resource Services
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March 14, 2017

VIA EMAIL

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, D.C. 20426

**Re: Docket No. P-2035-099
Denver Water's Gross Reservoir Expansion Project
Hydropower License Amendment Application**

Dear Commissioner:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Cherry Creek Village Water District ("District").

The District serves approximately 6,000 residents located within the City of Greenwood Village, Colorado. The District is a Master Meter Distributor of Denver Water. Our service area has participated with and strongly supports Denver Water's conservation efforts. We have seen a decline in per-household water usage over the past several years, however, even with significant conservation efforts the District will need additional water supply and, hence, Denver Water's Gross Reservoir Expansion Project is of extreme importance to the District.

The Board of Directors ("Board") understands that Denver Water has reached a key milestone in connection with the Gross Reservoir Expansion Project in that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") has accepted Denver Water's hydropower license amendment application and the 60-day public comment period has commenced.

The Board has asked that I write this letter to advise you that the Board strongly supports FERC's 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 enable the expansion of Gross Reservoir, which will provide storage for a reliable water supply that our customers depend upon and need.

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The District's customers rely on the collection, treatment and distribution of water from Denver Water. Availability of a reliable water supply is crucial to the viability of the community we serve. As Colorado continues to see an increase in population, we have to prepare for greater demand on our water supplies. Even with conservation measures in place, that have proven to be significant, our current customers and those in the future cannot conserve their way to water security.

Denver Water's system is currently unbalanced, with 90% of its storage capacity in the south system and the other 10% in the north system, which includes Gross Reservoir. We are extremely concerned that if an emergency or natural disaster on either end of Denver Water's supply system occurs, communities that rely on that system face the real possibility of running out of water.

Expanding the capacity of Gross Reservoir will help protect the District and the rest of Denver Water's customers from the worst consequences of a range of possible emergencies-whether they be the effects of climate change, wildfires, floods, or other crisis that might impact one or more of Denver Water's critical water sheds. Moreover, expanding Gross Reservoir will provide a more balanced water system that will help ensure against a serious drought or interruption of supply. As a major step towards a solution, the Gross Reservoir expansion project will help the Cherry Creek Village Water District and the rest of Denver Water's customers provide water for current and future generations.

Based upon the foregoing, the Board of the Cherry Creek Village Water District strongly urges FERC to proceed with the necessary approvals to amend Denver Water's existing hydropower license. This being the next step to enable this critical program to move forward.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Forney". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "J" and "F".

John Forney, President
Cherry Creek Village Water District

cc: Matt Wittern
TJF/mo