

# **Community Notice**

## **Animas-La Plata Project** **Durango Pumping Plant Blasting** (May 6, 2003)

The first construction blasting operation at the Durango Pumping Plant site is scheduled to occur on Tuesday, May 13, at approximately 6:10 a.m., MST. State highways 160/550 will be closed at the intersection of Santa Rita Drive to the access road at the north end of Centennial Mall. Traffic will be detoured along Colorado Highway 3 during the road closure. Police officers will be stationed at major intersections and along the detour route, to assist traffic during the north and south bound morning commute. It is anticipated that the detour will be in effect from approximately 5:30 a.m. to 6:30 a.m., MST, during each blast operation. Blasting is also scheduled for Wednesday and Friday mornings – May 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> at approximately 6:10 a.m. Traffic will be detoured on these mornings from approximately 5:30 a.m. to 6:30 a.m.

A River Use Restriction Order will be in effect on a small stretch of the Animas River during the blasting operations. The section of river closed will be from the start of Smelter Rapids to the river bend approximately 300 feet south of the Santa Rita Highway Bridge. The River Use Restriction Order applies to all water-based vessels, including kayaks, whitewater canoes, and single chambered air inflated devices. The closure time will be the same as that shown above – approximately 5:30 to 6:30 a.m.

The Bureau of Reclamation has prepared a detailed map of the detour route for the public. Copies of the map can be acquired at Reclamation's Durango office located at 835 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Suite 300; by accessing our website at [www.uc.usbr.gov](http://www.uc.usbr.gov), then click on ALP Project; or by calling 970-385-6500.

The blasting schedule will be updated on a weekly basis. If inclement weather prevents the early morning shots from occurring, subsequent shots will be rescheduled to occur between the hours of 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Delays beyond the 11:00 a.m. hour necessitate that blasting operations are postponed to the following day.

The excavation of rock at the Durango Pumping will require approximately 70 shots, with no more than one shot per day. Blasting activities are scheduled to conclude in November, 2003.

Thank you for your cooperation in this heavy construction phase for the Animas-La Plata Project's Durango Pumping Plant.