

December 19, 2008

Will Tully
 U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
 Eastern Colorado Area Office
 11056 W. County Rd. 18E
 Loveland, CO 80537-9711

Tully

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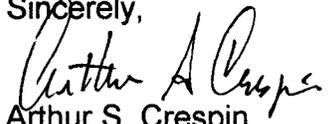
Re: Windy Gap FIRMING Project Draft EIS

Dear Mr. Tully:

It is my hope that the period of public comment on the Windy Gap project was extended so that citizens can still weigh in. The Draft EIS acknowledges that there will be impacts to the Colorado River. The fact that recreation, angling and rafting will be affected by the project seems indisputable. Reduced flows in the Upper Colorado River will likely lead to increased stream temperatures and reduced fish populations, yet the DEIS does little to identify the impact of this diversion on aquatic life during drought conditions. The study also looks at Windy Gap in isolation without addressing the cumulative effects of other diversions like the Moffat Expansion Project. This disregards the holistic impact to the Colorado River system.

There is little if any discussion of mitigation requirements for Northern Water Conservancy District. The City of Broomfield has yet to implement basic conservation measures such as tiered billing which would reduce the need for diversions from the Colorado. It seems reasonable that NWCD should be required to demonstrate that they have strict conservation measures in place before diversions are allowed. Outdoor recreation is a huge economic engine in Colorado. Dewatering rivers is not in the interest of the environmental or fiscal well being of our state. In my view, the DEIS needs work to incorporate the points above and should not be approved in its current form.

Sincerely,


 Arthur S. Crespin
 1361 So. Marion Street
 Denver, CO 80210

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