December 12, 2008

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

Re: Windy Gap Firming Project Draft EIS

Dear Mr. Tully:

The Draft EIS acknowledges that there will be impacts to the Colorado River. The fact that recreation, wildlife, 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. As recently as the summer of 2006, the river reached dangerous temperatures for the aquatic life. This project's additional impacts to the upper Colorado will likely increase the likelihood of these events.

This study also looks at Windy Gap in isolation without addressing the cumulative effects of other diversions like the Moffat Expansion Project. This disregards the cumulative impact to the Colorado River system.

There is little if any discussion of mitigation requirements for Northern Water Conservancy District. In my view, the DEIS needs work to incorporate the points above and should not be approved in its current form.

Sincerely,

Todd Fehr

Todd Fehr
5668 S. Geneva St.
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

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