

From: Richard Spotts [spotts@infowest.com]
Sent: Monday, April 30, 2007 6:43 PM
To: strategies@lc.usbr.gov
Subject: My comments on Colorado River DEIS

April 30, 2007

Dear Bureau of Reclamation officials:

Please accept this letter with my comments on the Colorado River water allocations DEIS.

I strongly support and urge you to adopt and implement the "Conservation Before Shortage Alternative". I believe that this alternative best reflects the changes that are needed to address exponential human growth combined with declining water supplies. Communities in the arid Southwest must learn to be much more aggressive and effective in achieving water conservation and reclamation. Groundwater recharge is also preferable to reservoir storage because of the latter's excessive evaporation losses. Water pricing must reflect true market demands and delivery costs, without any subsidies. Greater use of tiered water pricing can reward conservation and punish wasteful practices.

With global warming and the prospects for more severe droughts, the continuation of status quo management of the Colorado River would be irresponsible and dangerous. Strong reforms are needed now, in anticipation of the more serious shortages to come. We need only to look at Australia this year to see what the future may hold for us.

Please have the foresight and courage to implement these necessary reforms in the public interest.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Richard Spotts
1125 W. Emerald Drive
St. George UT 84770-6026
spotts@infowest.com