



**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER**

Scott A. Verhines, P.E.
State Engineer

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April 18, 2013

Mr. Larry Walkoviak
Regional Director
Bureau of Reclamation
Upper Colorado Regional Office
125 South State Street, Room 6107
Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1102

Subject: Recommendations for San Juan River Operations and Administration for 2013 through 2016

Dear Mr. Walkoviak:

I accept the subject Recommendations for San Juan River Operations and Administration for 2013 through 2016, dated July 2, 2012. The Recommendations have been endorsed by the ten major water users who are party to them, and provide a cooperative framework for operating Navajo Dam and administering the San Juan River during the period 2013-2016. My acceptance of the Recommendations, however, should not be construed as agreement to any disclaimers included in the endorsements of the parties.

The Office of the State Engineer during the period 2013-2016 will continue to work towards promulgation of rules and regulations for administering water rights within the San Juan Basin in New Mexico. It is anticipated that any such rules and regulations would not necessarily prohibit the development and implementation of alternative cooperative agreements for administration of diversions from the San Juan River stream system.

I wish to express my thanks to the Western Colorado Area Office staff, and to Mr. Ryan Christianson in particular, for Reclamation's continued cooperation in facilitating cooperative agreements for the administration and distribution of water in the San Juan River Basin in New Mexico. Please call me or Blaine Watson, Office of the State

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Engineer District V Supervisor at 505-334-4571, if you have any questions in these matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott A. Verhines". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Scott A. Verhines, P.E.
State Engineer

SAV/kme

cc: Ryan Christianson, US Bureau of Reclamation, Solicitor
Blaine Watson, OSE District V Manager
Kevin Flanigan, Interstate Stream Commission