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PUEBLO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

(Via US Mail and email)

December 27, 2012

Ms. Carlie Ronca Resources Division Chief Eastern Colorado Area Office, Bureau of Reclamation 11056 W. CR 18E, Loveland, CO 80537 (cronca@usbr.gov)

Re: Reclamation's Use of the River Gate, as modified by the North Outlet Works

Dear Ms. Ronca:

You recently requested that we provide additional clarification to my December 10, 2010 letter to Ms. Gould on Reclamation's resumed use of the River Gate, as modified by the North Outlet Works. In that letter, we stated that Pueblo County did not object to the use of the modified River Gate for releasing bypasses of native Arkansas River water and Fry-Ark Project water, the sources identified in Ms. Gould's email on November 13, 2012. Pueblo County also has no objection to Reclamation resuming historical operations of the River Gate by releasing other sources of water into the Arkansas River (but not into the SDS Pipeline), such as imported and transmountain water, winter storage program water, Project return flows, and water stored under excess capacity contracts. Such resumption of historical operations does not constitute the commencement of operation of the Southern Delivery System for purposes of certain provisions of the SDS 1041 Permit No. 2008-002, nor does it require releases of stored water to the river pursuant to the Low Flow Program under the 1041 Permit as described in our earlier letter. The other reservations and limitations set forth in our December 10, 2010 letter remain applicable.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at (719) 583-6105.

Sincerely,

Joan Cuntury

Joan Armstrong

Director

cc: Ray Petros, Special County to Pueblo County
Peter Blood, Interim Pueblo County Attorney
Gary Raso, Assistant County Attorney
Roy Vaughan, Facility Manager of Pueblo Dam, Bureau of Reclamation, (RVaughan@usbr.gov)
Jacklynn L Gould, P.E., (JGould@usbr.gov)