

## United States Department of the Interior

 $C_{2n}$ 

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION Great Plains Region P.O. Box 36900 Billings, Montana 59107-6900



August 26, 2008

Dear Interested Party:

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, the Bureau of Reclamation announces the availability of the Windy Gap Firming Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for review and comment. During the next sixty days, Reclamation will be accepting comments on the Draft EIS.

To complement the public comment process, Reclamation will host two public hearings:

- October 7, 2008, at 7 pm, McKee Conference Center, 2000 Boise Avenue, Loveland, CO 80538, (ph. 970-669-4640)
- October 9, 2008, at 7 pm, Inn at Silver Creek, 62927 US Highway 40, Granby, CO 80446, (ph. 970-887-4080)

Each public hearing will be preceded by an Open House. Additional notice of these meetings and the open houses will provided at a later date.

Comments may be submitted any time during the next sixty days. All comments should be received by Reclamation by Tuesday, October 28, 2008. To submit a comment, please provide it in writing via letter, fax, or e-mail. Comments should be sent to the attention of:

Will Tully Bureau of Reclamation, 11056 West County Rd. 18E, Loveland, CO 80537. *Fax:* (970) 663-3212 *Email:* wtully@gp.usbr.gov

For e-mail, please include "Windy Gap Draft EIS Comment" as the subject line.

If you received an Executive Summary and would like a complete copy of the DEIS, please visit <u>www.usbr.gov/gp/ecao</u>. Copies of both documents can also be viewed at the following locations.

- Eastern Colorado Area Office, 11056 W. County Road 18E, Loveland, CO 80537 970-962-4410
- Corps of Engineers, Chatfield Reservoir Office, 9307 South Wadsworth Blvd., Littleton, CO 80128
- Berthoud, Berthoud Public Library, 236 Welch Avenue

- Broomfield, Mamie Eisenhower Public Library, 3 Community Park Road
- Ft. Collins, Morgan Library, Colorado State University, 501 University Avenue
- Ft. Collins, Fort Collins Public Library, 201 Peterson Street
- Ft. Lupton, Ft. Lupton Public Library, 425 South Denver Avenue
- Granby, Granby Branch Library, 55 Zero Street
- Grand Lake, Juniper Library, 316 Garfield Street
- Greeley, Centennial Park Branch, Weld Library District, 2227 23rd Avenue
- Greeley, Farr Branch, Weld Library District, 1939 61st Avenue
- Greeley, Lincoln Park Branch, Weld Library District, 919 7th Street
- Hot Sulphur Springs, Hot Sulphur Springs Branch Library, 150 Moffat Avenue
- Kremmling, Kremmling Branch Library, 300 South 8th Street
- Longmont, Longmont Public Library, 409 4th Avenue
- Louisville, Louisville Public Library, 950 Spruce Street
- Loveland, Loveland Public Library, 300 North Adams Avenue
- Lyons, Lyons Depot Library, 5<sup>th</sup> and Broadway

The Executive Summary provides an overview of the more detailed DEIS. With over 500 pages, the complete DEIS with appendices presents the purpose and need of the proposed Windy Gap Firming Project and describes the anticipated environmental effects of five alternatives.

For additional questions on the public hearings or public comment period, or to request a hard copy of either the Executive Summary or the full Draft EIS, please contact Kara Lamb at (970) 962-4326 or <u>klamb@gp.usbr.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

A.

Michael J. Ryan Regional Director