**KEN SALAZAR COLORADO** 

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June 26, 2008

Mr. Chandler Peter U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Omaha District-Denver Regulatory Office 9307 South Wadsworth Boulevard Littleton, CO 80128

Re: Extension of Comment Period for Northern Integrated Supply Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)

Dear Mr. Peter:

The Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP) is a significant infrastructure project for Northern Colorado. The City of Ft. Collins and the City of Greeley have requested that the Army Corps extend the comment period for the DEIS to afford city staff and the city councils time for thorough review and analysis. It is my understanding that several entities and citizens also expressed support for an extension of the comment period during the public hearings in Ft. Collins last week.

It is important for the affected local governments and citizens of the area to have adequate time to make informed decisions and comments about NISP during this important phase of the project. At the same time, the 15 northern Colorado cities and water districts that are partnering with the Northern Water Conservancy District to build NISP need to know that the Army Corps' analysis will move forward in a timely manner. To accommodate these various interests, I request that the Corps extend the DEIS comment period for at least an additional 45 days beyond the current deadline at the end of July, 2008.

I also request that the Corps grant the extension as soon as possible so that Ft. Collins, Greeley and other entities can effectively plan their staff time and consideration by the city councils.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar

United States Senator