

Flatiron Penstock Recoating

The Flatiron Penstock Recoating project received \$15.6 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding to remove the exterior and interior coatings of the penstock and recoat them. The penstocks are a mile long and convey water from Pinewood Reservoir to the Flatiron Powerplant. Taxpayers saved money by preventing future costly repairs of leaking corroded pipe.

ARRA funding allowed for the accelerated schedule for this repair work to be completed. This project also included installing ultrasonic flow meters on the penstocks to improve water accounting and power plant efficiency. Recoating the penstocks was crucial to increasing reliability, guarding the structural integrity against corrosion and extending the service life of the piping, thereby allowing sustained water and power deliveries to continue into the future.

In service since 1954, the Flatiron Penstocks are an integral part of the Colorado-Big Thompson Project near Loveland, Colorado. They drop water 1,064 feet and make possible the generation of 440 million kilowatt hours of low cost federal hydroelectric power from the Pole Hill and Flatiron Powerplants. The penstocks also deliver supplemental water to 840,000 people in northeastern Colorado.

