

From: [Virginia Winter](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: Boulder County Gross Dam Expansion Proposal - Traffic and Recreation Management ???
Date: Wednesday, June 2, 2021 11:07:54 AM
Attachments: [Equinox_3.png](#)

Dear Boulder County Commissioners:

I am a property owner/resident living in central Boulder.

Because I will be out of town during the BCC Town Hall on the 10th I wanted to send an ADDITIONAL comment in objection to the expansion proposed by Denver Water for Gross Reservoir.

Please stand firm with all the regulatory or legal ground you have as Commissioners to help us avoid and to STOP this debacle of having Boulder County human health and our community, lands, forests, and water quality forever denegated.

I shudder to think of the YEARS of construction and destruction hazards the 'project' would entail. When I read in the newest Traffic Management and Recreation Management document that total visitation for Gross Reservoir was ~157,600 people in 2019 but increased by over 100,000 to ~275,600 people in 2020, it gives me even more pause... last year in the deepest part of the pandemic these statistics imply that the mental and physical well being of citizens (even I suspect those NOT resident to Boulder County) who use this area for a 'healthy' outdoor experience is expanding and once expanded will not decline.

Save this corner of our County from devastation for no REAL reason; other than Denver Water can apply for it. Its wrong-headed for every reason.

Sincerely,
Virginia Winter

Virginia (G) Winter (she/her)
Managing Principal
Equinox Consultancy LLC

T: 303.355.4924
C: 303.518.4587

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/equinoxconsultancyllcvirginiawinter/>



From: [mark glenn](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: Regarding Gross Reservoir Expansion...
Date: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 9:48:24 AM

Please hear me Dale Case ...

I am a Boulder resident and for the last 30 years, a lover and steward of these lands we call home, especially the unprecedented nature we have available to us between Boulder and Nederland. This includes healthy trees, animals, water, and every other relation which constitutes "nature" as we know it.

I strongly oppose the proposed Gross Reservoir Expansion project and write directly to you today to urge you to reject Denver Water's 1041 Application.

Dale, please understand my perspective here. Bigger is not always better. We have the ability, as proven during the COVID shut-down, to conserve the resources we have available to us. Water usage can be conserved simplistically via cultural change to our habits...specifically how we use this most precious resource.

Too many times in the past, we as a culture have subordinated options, like the one I propose, to grander schemes which carry wide promise. Dale, just look at our track record. We continue to make choices which do not consider the long-term viability of such choices...the long-term efficacy of such choices. Now is the time to trust in the rudiments of sustainability which emphasizes respect for and conservation of our most vital natural resource, water.

If not today, you know we will be forced to conserve water tomorrow. This means mandatory water restrictions for washing vehicles and watering lawns (which accounts for almost half the fresh water usage in Denver, seasonally). Dale, let's rally and change our perspective on water use, and NOT move forward with a scheme that has clear writing on the wall- The expansion would simply be a temporary solution to a long-term issue and it would create far more destruction than benefit over the long-term.

We have time, prior to next year's legislative session, to prepare a plan of action that includes the participation of everyone to work together to respect, hold sacred, and protect this most important natural resource, WATER. And, in doing so, we respect, hold sacred, and protect our environment by not destroying it in exchange for us being able to continue living a lifestyle that is unsustainable for the future health of these lands and our people.

I am counting on you to rise up and represent what is truly important to you, your grandchildren, your neighbors, this planet.

Call on me. I am here to help you take this path.

Mark Glenn
Boulder, CO

From: [Scott Engle](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Cc: markpglenn@gmail.com
Subject: SI-20-003
Date: Monday, May 31, 2021 3:29:33 PM

Dear Dale Case;

I strongly oppose the proposed Gross Dam Expansion project for a variety of reasons and urge you to reject Denver Water's 1041 Application.

It would destroy over a quarter million trees and countless acres of precious wildlife habitat right in our back yard. The project would do irreparable damage to Boulder's reputation as a forward thinking, environmentally conscious community.

Denver water doesn't need the water. Conservation is the answer, not bigger dams. They reduced usage between 2002-2016 by 22 percent(their numbers), in spite of population growth. Half the water they use is to water grass. Storing water in aquifers and sustainable landscapes are a viable alternative.

Denver water does not act in good faith. They have already done work with out permits. They are deceptive regarding keeping the reservoir open for recreation. They refer to the North parking lot as the access for future boating. Not realistic! When pressed they say they are 'working on a plan'. After all these years and all the propaganda, there plan is to make a plan.

Denver Water's 25 pages of revised tree removal plan is another example. After 24 pages of distracting information(implying they care about what is best for the environment), they state the decision on how best to remove trees will be determined by them and the contractor(not yet named)based on economics. You are elected to represent the residents of Boulder. This project is clearly detrimental to the County of Boulder. Please reject Denver Water's application.

Thank you,
Scott Engle

From: [Deb Greenfeld](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: GDE
Date: Monday, May 31, 2021 7:04:26 AM

Please stop the expansion plan! It is unnecessary and it has no benefit to Boulder County. Might does not make right.

Deborah Greenfeld
1565 Lazy Z Rd.
Nederland, CO 80466

Sent from my iPad

From: [Josie Varga](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: Stop Gross Dam Expansion
Date: Sunday, May 30, 2021 4:40:15 PM

Dear Boulder County Staff, Planning Commission and County Commissioners,

I am a strong opponent to the gross dam reservation expansion. I am not a resident in the area of the reservoir but have enjoyed recreating in the area since moving to Boulder County in 2005. As an architect in Boulder County I support sustainable growth to manage the increase in population in this state. I believe that the environmental impacts the dam expansion would have on the immediate area as well as the Colorado River would be devastating. We should be looking at more conservation ways to deal with our water shortage for a solution instead of expanding the reservoir.

There are many steps that could be taken to reduce the water consumption in the area. I have listed a few below.

- Fracking takes an insane amount of water away from domestic use and in itself is an environmental problem working against our goal to decrease greenhouse emissions.
- Regenerative agricultural practices reduce soil erosion and allows water to infiltrate into the soil more resulting in less water usage.
- The effort in the city of Boulder to decrease energy usage in rental properties is an approach that could work to conserve water usage in existing rental buildings.

With dams across the country being dismantled to restore ecosystems, it seems absurd that we are considering this massive project.

Please do everything you can to see that this project does not move forward!

Josie Varga
Boulder County Resident

Josie Varga // *Senior Associate - Architect*

Sopher Sparn Architects, LLC

1731 15th Street, Suite 250 // Boulder, CO 80302
303.442.4422 x204 // www.sophersparn.com

From: [Tony Zubricky](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: Docket #SI-20-0003
Date: Sunday, May 30, 2021 11:49:10 AM

At this time, I know that you have received many comments from logical, thinking and concerned residents of this great state. The only reason for the proposed project of expanding gross reservoir by raising the height of the existing dam is based on greed and the expansion and the "rape" of the foothills and the death of the Colorado River. Greed is the downfall of our society with no regard of the negative effects of this project for most residents, only the money to be made from the additional water taps. I live in Coal Creek Canyon and see the waste of water by the new residents of the Candelas development. Kentucky blue grass that most of those residents have in their yard is a great waste of water. I see water wasted by over watering and water running into the streets. The water board says that they have an aggressive effort to conserve water. That is a blatant lie. Where does all the funding come from, obviously not totally from only water taps as they have stated. Their MUST be other investors and developers that are funding this project. How else can they afford to pay for this project and the water treatment plant on Ralston Creek, plus other major water projects. The entire proposal needs to be revisited and an intelligent decision be made to stop this proposed project. Many thanks to you and your efforts.

Sincere regards,
Anna and Anthony Zubricky.

From: [Tony Zubricky](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: Docket #SI-20-0003: gross & dam expansion
Date: Sunday, May 30, 2021 11:48:41 AM

I know you have received many comments from concerned, intelligent residents. The only reason for this proposal is GREED with no regard for the environment or anyone's safety. The death of the Colorado River is not even a consideration let alone the negative impact it will have on peoples lives or lively hood. only the development of sprawling house building and negative impact of the front range is not even a consideration. Common sense has to come into play and thank you for all your efforts.

Sincerely yours
Anna and Tony Zubricky

From: [Judy Lehmkuhl](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: Gross Dam Expansion
Date: Saturday, May 29, 2021 11:43:14 AM

Boulder County Commissioners and Staff

Thank you for extending the comment time and hearing our input.

I read the May re-submission input from Denver Water (as much as eyeballs and mental well being would allow).

It appears that many of their answers to your questions consist of obfuscating verbiage and TBD's. These replies cannot adequately allow for proper planning or objective consideration.

The proposed highway modification at the west end of Gross Dam Road by the Coal Creek Canyon community center, the United Power office and work yard, and Whispering Pines Church, is unacceptable. A steep straight shot onto a hill with curves in both directions is not a safe design. Nor could it be returned to normal after 7 years or whatever time they plan.

The tree removal plan is equally onerous. The removal of hundreds or thousands of trees (by companies TBD) hauled out (by transportation TBD) in all directions on subdivision/community roads in three separate counties, including Crescent Park Drive (my road), to destinations (TBD)...Not compatible with county or community plans.

Can we with any conscience remove any more water from the already drought stricken Colorado River Basin?

Once again I urge you understand the great harm this plan of DW will do to many people for little gain for anyone but their own profit.

Sincerely,
Judy Lehmkuhl
29283 Spruce Canyon Dr
Golden, CO 80403

From: [Tez Steinberg](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: We must not approve Gross Dam expansion!
Date: Friday, May 28, 2021 6:10:27 PM

Dear County Commissioners,

I am a resident of Nederland and a prior resident of Boulder, and I'm writing to implore you to do everything in your power to reject the Gross Dam expansion.

Boulder will receive no benefits from this project and will bear an enormous cost. Years of noisy construction, loss of recreation opportunities during that time, loss of wildlife habitat forever, and failing to uphold our values of environmental conservation - those are just a few of the downsides of this project.

But most importantly, it's incredibly unlikely the dam would ever even fill up. Look at the res today - it's far below capacity. Why raise a dam 131 feet when it cannot even fill up today?

And even if it could fill up, is ruining wildlife habitat and stealing water from the Colorado River - one of the most endangered rivers in the world - really the right thing to do? You know it is not - and we must oppose and end this project immediately.

I look to you to do the right thing.

Sincerely, Boulder County resident,
Terence Steinberg

--

Tez Steinberg | United World Challenge
+1.651.706.6391 | unitedworldchallenge.org

From: [Eric Tussey](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Cc: [Eric Tussey](#)
Subject: Oppose Gross Reservoir Expansion -
Date: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 12:54:37 PM

Hi ,

I wanted to reiterate my opposition to the expansion of the Gross Reservoir.
This expansion is a very bad idea.

The amount of water from the Colorado river is already "spoken for" through many legal agreements.

Lake Pawell is emptying slowly as long term drought trends continue,
Water conservation efforts over the last few decades have kept the supply / demand equation in balance even as Denver has grown in population. Conservation needs to continue. We do not have a water shortage. Denver Water is not telling the truth about our actual water needs. We need current and accurate data.

The project itself will destroy hundreds of thousands of trees and destroy the immediate ecosystem into the future for numerous animal species. These ramifications (destroying the area & loss of habitat) go well beyond the 7 year estimated scheduled construction period. It is not like animals will be "waiting to return". This is a species destroying project. It speeds up climate change by destroying the forest and by trucking in millions of tons of cement and materials.

The carbon intensive process of building the dam is HUGE.
There is no way to offset this .

Humanity needs to learn to live within limited resources. With climate change - there will be less water - so starting the largest construction project in the history of Boulder - against the will of Boulder residents - is a no go.

This idea only benefits Denver Water - not Boulder County.
Please support Community Rights and The Rights of Nature. - not Denver Water.

Thank you for your support.

Cordially,

Eric Tussey
5075 51st Street Boulder CO 80301

303 818 2271

From: [Howard Kaushansky](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Cc: [Boulder County Board of Commissioners](#)
Subject: Comments in Opposition to Denver Water's 1041 Application
Date: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 11:22:21 PM
Attachments: [Objection to Gross Dam Expansion 5-24-2021.docx](#)

Hello,

Attached is a letter in opposition to Denver Water's 1041 application for the expansion of Gross Reservoir.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,
Howard

Howard Kaushansky
303 517 6500

**Howard Kaushansky
494 Aspen Meadows Road
Nederland, CO 80466**

May 25, 2021

Re: Objection to the Denver Water Application for a 1041 Permit

Commissioners,

While I want to express strong objection to the entirety of the Gross Dam expansion project as a monument to climate denial, I am focusing these comments on the Tree Removal Plan dated March 15, 2021 (the “Plan”) submitted by Denver Water.

As provided in more detail below, the Plan is not a plan. While Denver Water has made some progress on deciding how they will proceed with tree removal the Plan is merely a series of different potential approaches to actually removing the trees and biomass, all of which will be decided when they select a contractor in 2024. This is entirely unacceptable as it does not provide the County or the impacted residents with a clear sense of the precise impact of the tree removal.

The Plan submitted is not prepared to provide the County with a clear and precise picture of the impacts in connection Denver Water’s application for a 1041 permit but is a plan required under Denver Water’s FERC application. While the FERC is requiring Denver Water to prepare a tree removal plan to be provided to the State and Boulder County, the Plan is not satisfactory to meet the County’s need to precise impact information on the entire development.

As provided in section 8-501(D) of Boulder County’s 1041 regulations:

“For any application to be considered complete under these Regulations, in addition to the requirements of Section 8-507 below, the application shall include **the entire development** as contemplated or reasonably foreseeable for the subject property in question for at least a five-year period.” [Emphasis added.]

The Plan fails to describe the entire development with respect to tree removal since, among other things:

- (1) The Plan fails to describe the method for treatment of removed trees;
- (2) The Plan cannot describe the number of truck trips necessary since it does not identify the manner of treatment of the removed trees which, by the Plan’s description, can have a significant impact on the number of necessary truck trips;

- (3) The Plan fails to describe the impact of CO2 from either truck traffic and or from Air Curtain Burning of tress if this approach is selected;
- (4) The Plan fails to describe the precise truck travel routes for removed biomass;
- (5) The Plan fails to describe the precise road improvement work and intersection work to be provided, in part because the Plan fails to describe how the trees and or biomass will be managed and transported; and,
- (6) The Plan fails to identify the noise impacts from the use of helicopters to move fallen trees.

The Plan states than an estimated 200,000 trees will be removed representing approximately 24,000 tons of woody biomass (p. 10). The trees will be removed in two phases. The initial phase is designed to clear roadways and the four staging areas for helicopter delivery of trees.

The Initial phase estimates 2 to 3 trucks per hour over an 8 hour daylight period for an approximate total of 150 truckloads (p. 17 – 18) with 81% of the biomass being removed via Lazy Z road (p. 22). There are no accurate estimates for the tree removal during Phase Two (the inundation removal phase), which is estimated to last from 2026 to 2027 (p. 20). The reason there are no estimates is because Denver Water does not provide a plan to manage the trees and does not know where the trees or biomass will be taken.

By Denver Water's own admission in the Plan:

“Denver Water intends to contract the tree removal work in 2024 and will require the contractor to refine the Traffic Management Plan to finalize details related to: (1) roads to be improved, constructed and used for tree removal activities; (2) restoring roads to pre-project conditions; (3) travel management considerations such as prevention of public use of temporary roads created for tree removal; (4) transportation management during tree removal activities; and (5) how GRE Project-related traffic would be managed to minimize disruption on USFS roads and provide for visitor safety.” (p.26)

The Plan refers to Denver Water considering:

- Lumber sales, although it acknowledged that as of the 2019 Tree Removal Plan there was no market for the lumber,
- Chipping the trees,
- Turning it in cord wood for fireplace burning,
- Biochar, and
- Air Curtain Burning (all p. 23) , and that,

“Denver Water will select Denver Water will select a contractor [in 2024] who will determine the best combination of disposal methods in coordination with Denver Water” (p.24)

And further,

“Denver Water intends to contract the tree removal work in 2024 and will require the contractor to refine the Traffic Management Plan to finalize details related to: (1) roads to be improved, constructed and used for tree removal activities; (2) restoring roads to pre-project conditions; (3) travel management considerations such as prevention of public use of temporary roads created for tree removal; (4) transportation management during tree removal activities; and (5) how GRE Project-related traffic would be managed to minimize disruption on USFS roads and provide for visitor safety.” (p.26)

To put it simply, the Plan is not a plan at all but a suggestion of tree management possibilities it will consider and will decide unilaterally. How can the County assess this portion of the application without a complete proposal for precisely what Denver Water will do. How can the impacted residents assess how Denver Water will impact their lived for 5 to 7 years? Denver Water cannot be trusted to make decisions so dramatically impacting the County local residents after construction starts and the County is has relinquished its 1041 powers.

The Plan is an example of Denver Water’s disdain for the 1041 permitting process and clearly fails to meet the requirement to describe the entire development. As such the application should be denied.

Respectfully,

Howard Kaushansky

Howard Kaushansky

From: [Diane Merline](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#); [Boulder County Board of Commissioners](#)
Subject: Gross Dam expansion opposition
Date: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 4:15:49 PM

Boulder County Commissions,

I oppose this project for many reasons, chief among them the impact it would have on traffic. There are many daily commuters on Hiway 119 and the impact this project would have on that traffic would be terrible.

Please refuse this project.

Sincerely,
Diane Merline

Gilpin County

From: [Bill Merline](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#); [Boulder County Board of Commissioners](#)
Subject: Gross Dam mess, yet again
Date: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 4:10:48 PM

Boulder County Commissioners -

I am writing yet again to insist that the Gross Dam expansion project be rejected.

This is the most ill-conceived project I can imagine, with Boulder County and Gilpin County (and others) bearing all of the negative impacts, while getting zero value.

Denver could lower its need for water by 1) enacting stricter water-conservation practices, which have been done in essentially all other southwestern cities, and 2) stop the endless expansionism and building that is going on. They DON'T need yet another water-guzzling golf course. The City of Boulder has limited its expansion and preserved green space. Maybe it's time for Denver to do the same, instead of leaning on its neighbors to provide for its greed.

The transportation plan presented is yet more fluff, with very little substance. It goes over and over and over again with explanations and descriptions of the length and width of different roadways, hoping you will go to sleep and not notice that the substance of a plan is missing.

Just looking at some of the numbers, there is a call for western tree removal over years 2025 and 2026, with 53 trucks per day over a 4 day week. Yet, when Denver Water made a presentation to Gilpin County just a few weeks ago, they were talking about 1000 truckloads total. What? 53 trucks 4 days a week is 212 trucks per week. That means the entire project could be done in 4.7 weeks. How does this manage to cover 2 years plus? Someone has made up stories somewhere.

Having a lot of charts and numbers
helps a person's eyes glaze over.

And it is evidenced by the sheer lack
of any detail about where, how, what,
or how much any of this will be. It
is usually stated that "this is not
yet known, or will be determined
later". Really? What kind of a
"plan" is that? Wait for approval
of the project and THEN we'll tell
you how it will work and how it will
destroy the lives of the majority
of mountain residents.

This business of shoving the tree-
removal traffic off to Gilpin
County on Hwy 119 is an absolute outrage.
It is unacceptable by any stretch.
As I said before, if Boulder County
REALLY thinks this is a good idea,
then funnel all the traffic through
Boulder County and see how they
like it.

How many people have to scream about
this project before you decide, once
forever, that it is NOT for Boulder
County?

Dr. William J. Merline
Staff Scientist
Southwest Research Institute
Boulder, CO 80302
merline@boulder.swri.edu

and

Board Member
Missouri Lakes WRIA (HOA)
86 Spruce Way
Black Hawk, CO 80422
molakes.merline@gmail.com

Property owner,
Boulder, Gilpin, and Park Counties

From: [Gretchen Wiegand](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: Docket # SI-20-0003 Gross Reservoir & Dam Expansion
Date: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 7:32:16 AM

May 25, 2021

Docket # SI 20-0003

Dear Boulder County Community Planning & Permitting Department,

We are property owners on the west side of Lakeshore Park and have been since 1977. We are opposed to the Gross Dam expansion project because of all the obvious reasons such as climate change, Colorado drought conditions, environmental and noise pollution, and destruction of wildlife habitat, etc.

Our neighbors and ourselves have personally witnessed the lack of knowledge that Denver Water employees have about our area to effectively enforce or monitor anything. They don't even know where forest service, Denver Water, or private property boundaries are located. We've had to educate them about it on numerous occasions.

We've witnessed firsthand the ongoing problems with trash, illegal camping and fires, illegal parking, and trespassing on private properties. Denver Water parking lots and the entire recreation area are already poorly managed. The GRE will only exacerbate these problems in the future.

Water is a finite resource.

Climate change is real.

Colorado is and has been in a drought.

Denver Water is not listening to the science.

Denver Water IS unlimited water for Denver.

Denver is building more and more housing to accommodate the thousands of people moving into Denver every month.

Denver Water is NOT doing enough to educate their water users about conserving water usage but is squeezing every last drop out of Boulder County and the Western Slope reservoirs, rivers, and streams.

Denver Water's bottom line is providing water to Denver.

We hope your bottom line is protecting Boulder County constituents and the Boulder County environment from the squeeze of Denver Water's thirst for more and more water. It is time to put an end to the destruction of the western slope ecosystems for the benefit of the Denver

corridor expansion.

Denver Water's claim of "effective" management of the Gross Reservoir Recreation Area is abysmal. There is no accountability on Denver Water's part.

We ask that the Boulder County Commissioners, planning and permitting, land use, and anyone else involved, come to Gross Reservoir recreation areas on a weekend and see and witness for yourselves the problems that exists and will continue. (Reference 3.2 Recreation Areas: Conditions and Characteristics)

Stop the Gross Dam Expansion Project to preserve Boulder County's environmental integrity.

Thank you,

Edward and Gretchen Wiegand

From: [Ken Fisher](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: proposed expansion of dam
Date: Monday, May 24, 2021 9:38:57 AM

My name is Ken Fisher, 1182 Chute Rd. Golden, Co 80403

My wife and I moved to Coal Creek Canyon in 1969. We built our house in Boulder County in 1970.

It's not easy living where we do. Our kids went to school in Nederland, nearly 20 miles away. We have been through wild fires, floods, a 7 foot snowstorm, destructive winds etc., but all that is more than balanced by the beauty, the birds and wildlife and the quiet.

We have only one access road to go anywhere. We have to use the Gross Dam Rd. No choices. For 51 years that has not been a problem.

But now the Denver Water Board wants to change that.

Their proposed dam expansion will have enormous impact on Boulder County and it's citizens. The benefits (if any) will go to Denver. The problems will be in Boulder County.

The Walker Ranch and Crescent Meadows Open Space and Eldorado State Park plus our home and every other home in the area will be affected by noise, dust, explosions... but the major effect for us who depend on the Gross Dam Rd. will be a huge increase in traffic on a steep, curvy, dirt road. Tractor trailer trucks with heavy machinery and material, lumber trucks, etc. All under time pressure so they will be driving fast.

This is projected to last 5-7 years. We are in our late 70's.

We are asking the county commissioners to deny approval of the project.

Thank you,

Ken and Molly Fisher

From: [Dana Edwards](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: Stop Gross Dam Expansion
Date: Sunday, May 23, 2021 1:37:42 PM

Continued support for the denial of Denver Water's plan to expand Gross Dam Reservoir. This project is antiquated, expensive, and will be a stain on Boulder County's environmental and sustainable initiatives. Tell Denver Water to find a better way, one that is forward thinking and sustainably-focused.

Appreciatively,

Dana C. Edwards
www.linkedin.com/in/danacedwards/

From: [Clark R Chapman](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#); [Boulder County Board of Commissioners](#)
Cc: [Y Chapman](#)
Subject: Updated Comments on Gross Reservoir Expansion Docket SI-20-0003
Date: Friday, May 21, 2021 4:47:52 PM
Attachments: [cybcc521.docx](#)
[AppA521.docx](#)

Dear Commissioners,

We attach two documents for your consideration. The first is our 9-page letter to you, updating our comments from six months ago to address more recent submissions by Denver Water. The second is our "Appendix A" that documents our comments on two aspects of the proposed project that we have submitted to various agencies since 2010, to which Denver Water has failed to respond appropriately.

We again urge you to reject this 1041 Application.

Clark & Y Chapman

--

Clark & Y Chapman
2083 Lazy Z Rd.
Nederland CO 80466

★ Dr. Clark & "Y" (LMC) Chapman ★

Rancho Europa

2083 Lazy Z Road

Nederland, CO 80466

(303) 642-1913

21 May 2021

Boulder County Commissioners, 1325 Pearl St., Boulder CO 80302

Re: Gross Reservoir Expansion, Docket SI-20-0003

Dear Commissioners,

Last autumn, we sent you (and/or your predecessors) a lengthy letter arguing why you should reject Denver Water's 1041 application for approving expansion of Gross Reservoir. This letter is a follow-up to comment on Denver Water's subsequent submissions to Boulder County, including their responses (generally non-responses) to input from citizens and agencies, through mid-May 2021.

Denver Water's (hereafter D.W.) submissions during the last six months are extremely insulting to residents of Boulder and surrounding counties, to Boulder County Planning Division staff, and to you, the Commissioners of Boulder County. We have made serious, informed input to the public process since 2003, including our 28-page report (16 March 2010) concerning D.W.'s Draft EIS, our 31-page critique (9 June 2014) of D.W.'s Final EIS, our 8-page letter (9 April 2018) to FERC objecting to D.W.'s Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) Amendment, and our 10-page letter to you (13 Nov. 2020) urging you to reject D.W.'s 1041 Application.

We have pointed out the serious, unprofessional mistakes of D.W.'s previous consultants (URS Corp.), based on our detailed knowledge of the local

circumstances, since we live about two miles from the west edge of the reservoir. It is clear that D.W.'s new consultants, Stantec, have failed to read and understand the voluminous history of this project or the on-the-ground situation. Although Stantec has offices in Boulder and Broomfield, they obviously have not sent anyone up here to objectively study the numerous reasons that local residents regard the reservoir expansion project to be seriously flawed. D.W. is paying Stantec \$13 million, beginning in 2018, for extremely sloppy project planning, often consisting of simply cutting-and-pasting the erroneous words from D.W.'s previous consultant, URS Corp.

In Responses to the public and public agencies submitted to Boulder County in February and April 2021, it is obvious that Stantec had some clerks in Edmonton (Stantec's headquarters) or somewhere far from Boulder County go through the serious input and write brief generic responses that wholly fail to deal with our serious issues. Responses are typically of the following type:

- * We will be developing a [fill-in-the-blank] Plan in the future that will deal with this. [They should damn well show the public and Commissioners the plans *now*].
- * We addressed this question in our SEA submitted to FERC several years ago and they approved the project so it is OK. [In reality, they didn't address the question at all, or did so in a terribly mistaken way].
- * We will follow local and state regulations about this matter. [The hell they will, and in many cases, generic regulations don't address the actual local issue at hand].
- * We will take that into account. [They haven't taken it into account in the last 18 years, so why should we believe them now?]
- * No response at all.

Needless to say, we cannot go through the many thousands of pages of material submitted since last autumn. What we will do is pick a few specific issues that we are highly knowledgeable about and about which we have been commenting in

specific detail to D.W. for the last two decades that illustrate the incompetence of D.W. and its contractors in their submittals to the Army Corps, EPA, FERC, and now to Boulder County. From scanning D.W.'s input and responses on other issues, it is our opinion that D.W.'s inputs are as badly flawed in many other cases as they are concerning the issues we examine in detail below.

To exemplify the non-responsiveness of D.W.'s recent submissions to Boulder County, we first concentrate on two issues that we have repeatedly addressed to D.W. in the past dozen years and which they have consistently ignored or made mistakes.

The first matter concerns the extreme Chinook wind corridor in which Gross Reservoir sits, with numerous potential issues that D.W. continues to ignore, except in stating, in just one phrase, that they might consider winds when they develop a "fugitive dust control plan" in the *future*. One of us (Dr. Clark Chapman) has a Master's Degree in Meteorology from M.I.T., so is competent to address this issue.

The second matter concerns what now appears to be the proposed principal route by which trucks will remove logs from helicopter landing zones in the west part of the project. D.W. originally said that roads FR 359 and CR 97E are joined as a single road, though they are actually separated (horizontally) by 800 feet. It has taken years, but D.W. now realizes it needs to connect the roads and proposes to construct a connector ("access road") 800 feet long. But they ignorantly fail to realize that the roads are also separated *vertically* by 200 feet! (That would make the hypotenuse 825 ft. long.) There is a history of even 4-wheel-drive vehicles failing to get back up this steep incline. Logging trucks would require major construction of a new road a large fraction of a mile in length. There is minimal discussion of this project in the submitted materials, including brief discussion in Appendix F of the Tree Removal Plan.

For both of these matters, we attach Appendix A in which we quote our previous, lengthy, concrete input on these issues that we have submitted since 2010. (They are available, of course, in the Gross archives, but we include them in the

Appendix for your convenience.) We now summarize how D.W. continues, in 2021, to fail to address these serious matters.

Winds

According to NOAA's Earth Systems Research Laboratory in Boulder, "Boulder has some of the highest peak winds of any city in the US." Those of us who live in Boulder County and listen to weather forecasts know that the very windiest places of all are in the corridor extending southeast from Caribou, through Nederland, across Gross Reservoir, down El Dorado Canyon, to Rocky Flats. Such Chinook winds, most common in spring and autumn, present serious dangers of several kinds, including spreading wildfires, dangers to recreationists on the reservoir and in surrounding lands (during and following construction), wide dispersal of dust from the project, trucks proposed to be on SH 93 being frequently toppled by winds or stuck in high snow drifts, etc.

In our 2010 report, we presented a map of peak winds in central Colorado, showing Gross Reservoir in a particularly windy spot (we presented the same map in our later reports, such as to FERC in 2018: see Appendix A). So D.W. did try to discuss winds in their Final EIS in 2014. But their URS consultants were unprofessionally incompetent. They complained about lack of availability of wind data and so offered no pertinent analysis. They incorrectly cited wind data from two far-away locations (near Ward, CO, and at what was then called Jeffco Airport). In reality, the nation's chief meteorological organizations (National Center for Atmospheric Research [NCAR], National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration [NOAA, including the Boulder/Denver Weather Bureau]) are located just 5 miles from Gross Dam! Abundant and highly relevant wind data from their weather stations are publicly available on their websites (e.g. <https://psl.noaa.gov/boulder/wind.html>).

The Boulder County Commissioners should be specifically annoyed about the fact that D.W., in its 1041 Application, has wholly ignored our comments about winds during the past decade. Instead, they have cut-and-pasted the same wholly

erroneous sentences from D.W.'s 2014 EIS that adequate wind data are not available. And they cut-and-paste the same irrelevant data from two far-away stations, failing to realize – despite our repeatedly telling them – that national meteorological organizations collect and publish wind data from just five miles away from Gross Dam.

We discussed this incompetent failure to address Chinook winds in our November 2020 letter to you, the Commissioners (see Appendix A). In February 2021, D.W. pretended to answer our concerns. The entirety of their response is:

"As discussed in FERC Supplemental EA section 5.1.11, Air Quality, plans addressing dust control are proposed by Denver Water and are also required by USFS 4(e) Condition 19. These plans would require approval by FERC and will incorporate important local conditions such as high winds."

They have a similar response to many of the public comments concerning wildfires. In the FERC SEA they cite, they write that both the "Fugitive Dust Control Plan" and the "Fire Management and Response Plan" will be developed "in the future." So they are not available for the public, County Planning Division staff, or the Commissioners to review now. Given their grossly incompetent treatment of this issue over the past dozen years, it is unacceptable that they want approval of their project prior to developing and presenting competent plans on these (and other) topics.

Connector Road between FR 359 and CR 97E (Lazy Z)

In their Draft EIS a dozen years ago, D.W. stated that access to Gross Reservoir from the west could be via CR 97E "which turns into" FS 359. That has always been false. The two roads are horizontally separated by 800 feet. Actually, CR 97E (also known as Lazy Z Rd.) ends at a locked gate 1.6 miles west of its approach to FS 359. The first quarter mile to the east of the gate is a private road on private land before it becomes a USFS road, FR 238. It is clear in materials presented to Boulder County, that Stantec consultants in Edmonton or wherever are wholly unaware of the locked gate, the private section of the road, and many

other vital attributes of this proposed truck route (e.g. that these USFS roads are closed for many months each year, in winter and spring, to protect wildlife habitat).

What D.W.'s Stantec consultants are particularly unaware of, however, is not just the horizontal separation of the two roads – which they recently became aware of – but that there is a 200 foot *vertical* separation of the roads. So they have proposed, in a sentence or two, a 0.15 mile long connector road between the two. But that road would have a greater than 25% grade! There is a steep hiking trail down that grade. Two decades ago, some adventurers drove their dune buggies and 4WD vehicles down that route, but then they got stuck because they couldn't drive back up the steep slope and had no keys to the locked gate 1.6 miles to the west. So the USFS closed off that route entirely to motor vehicles.

Appendix F of the Tree Removal Plan mentions, and shows a “conceptual diagram” of, this connector “access road.” It says that the jeep trail is called FR 359.1C and is steep, has grades “up to 21%” (in fact the *average* grade is 25% for an 800 ft. long road, based on Google Earth so parts must be even steeper), says that a new road will not have grades exceeding 15% (still very steep!), and shows a diagram of the existing route, not the much longer route that would be required. Appendix F has apparently been done by a Subcontractor Consulting firm (Tetra Tech), but its results seem not to be known by Stantec and the Appendix is not consistent with the on-the-ground reality.

So *this* is the main route that D.W. and their incompetent consultants want to send logging trucks down?

It is not only incompetent and absurd, it illustrates the lack of serious professionalism that pervades this entire 1041 Application. That in the last dozen years D.W./URS/Stantec have never sent anyone up here to look at what would be their major haul route out from the west side of the project. D.W.'s Application includes engineering studies of a relatively simple intersection between Gross Dam Rd. and SH 72. But connecting FR 359 and CR 97E would require constructing a connector road a large fraction of a mile long that they

don't even realize they need. So there aren't even simple engineering sketches of this major project in the documents submitted to Boulder County.

We, of course, in November 2020, wrote a long section about this connector road in our comments to the Commissioners. As you know, D.W. pretended to answer all public comments in February and April 2021. They put topic codes in the left margins of all letters from the public and public agencies. Guess what topic code they put next to our 2.5 pages discussing the connector road? No code at all!

D.W. offers zero words of response to our calling out this grotesque engineering mistake.

Additional Remarks and Conclusions

D.W. also offers no substantive response to our comments about other problems with this proposed log-hauling route west of the project, other than listing us as being concerned about "traffic". Their Application goes into some detail, presumably following some national consulting template – while ignoring local realities in the Boulder County foothills -- to estimate how much time would be lost to drivers along CR 97E/Lazy Z stuck behind logging trucks. They conclude:

"...however the existing traffic volumes on these roadways is very low and impacts to the traveling public will not be significant."

It is a totally irrelevant and absurd conclusion that is wholly unaware of the on-the-ground situations along this route. First, a 1.6-mile long part of the route is behind a locked gate and partly on private land, so there are zero drivers for logging trucks to slow down. Second, most travelers on the public part of Lazy Z Rd. are bicyclists, pedestrians, equestrians, hikers, runners, dog-walkers, and children playing. To be sure there are 200 homes (many usually unoccupied seasonal get-aways) on or off of Lazy Z Rd., so there is some minor traffic. But the real imposition of the logging trucks is not the slowing down of automobiles but in totally banishing the rural uses of the road by horse riders, dog walkers, children bicycling, and so on. D.W. either hasn't read the lengthy input from residents about this potential destruction of our rural way of life, or it just doesn't give a

damn. It seems as though the Design Engineer for this Application must live in an urban area (maybe Edmonton?) where people “travel” only by cars or on sidewalks. There is no analysis, or even responses, from D.W. concerning these critical issues. D.W. should respect Boulder County’s long history of valuing our environment, wildlife habitats, migration routes, and the rural way of life of exurban parts of the County.

D.W. proposes to run several logging trucks per hour along the public part of Lazy Z, then west on Magnolia to Peak-to-Peak, and then perhaps down through Gilpin County for eight hours a day for several months spread over a couple of years. The noise, danger, and pollution from these logging vehicles will severely impact or destroy the quality of life for people living along this route. The trucks will be loaded from four “landing zones” near the periphery of the reservoir using low-flying helicopters that we all know are extremely noisy, badly impacting not only those living near the areas to be cleared but the sensitive wildlife (like elk) in the region.

These kinds of poorly planned impacts in the area defy long-standing land-use policies by Boulder County and the USFS that have designated these areas as prioritized for wildlife, non-intrusive recreation, and so on. It is why there are official Natural Landmarks, Environmental Conservation Areas, a High Biodiversity Significance Area, designated elk migration routes, designated mountain bike routes, and seasonal and permanent road closures throughout the Gross Reservoir area. People have moved here to enjoy an exurban/rural way of life, with horse ranches, hiking trails, camping sites, and homes overlooking the foothills vistas. This proposed project would certainly cause some people to move away (some already have moved); in fact, in post-pandemic years the depression of local real estate values and the rising prices of homes elsewhere might force people to remain for years in the horrible noisy environment of trucks, helicopters, and quarrying operations.

Denver Water asks us, and you – the Commissioners – just to trust them to “take into account” our interests. They haven’t done so since 2003, some of the most critical issues are promised to be addressed only “in the future,” and what they

do present is often fictitious, unworkable, and incompatible with the values of Boulder County. So we again urge you all to reject this 1041 Application.

Thank you for your consideration,

Clark & Y Chapman

2083 Lazy Z Rd.

Nederland CO 80466

Appendix A: History of Denver Water’s 11-Year Failure to Address Major Analyst Mistakes on Two Topics (Winds and a Connector Road). Quotes from our Previous Critiques.

16 March 2010 Clark & Y Chapman, DEIS: **Critique of Draft Environmental Impact Statement for “Moffat Collection System Project” (Enlargement of Gross Reservoir)**

Winds:

“A major concern of local citizens is dust during and following the long construction period. Yet, despite Gross Reservoir’s location in one of the windiest neighborhoods in the United States, there is zero consideration of this factor in the DEIS analysis of “fugitive dust control.” The words “chinook” and “wind speed” simply do not appear in analysis of the Proposed Action. Nor are winds mentioned with respect to project trucks on SH 93, a road frequently closed to high-profile vehicles due to hurricane-force winds or closed to all vehicles by drifting snow.” [We devote 1.5 pages to this topic.]

Roads 359 & 97E (Lazy Z):

“Access to FR 359 from CR 97E. The DEIS states that: “Gross Reservoir can be accessed from Boulder via Flagstaff Road (CR 77), as well as via CR 68 and CR 97E, which turns into FR 359 (Figure 3.10-1). Numerous road segments would need to be abandoned and relocated or newly constructed in order to facilitate construction operations at Gross Reservoir.” ...

It is *false* that 97E “turns into” FR 359. County Road 97E (Lazy Z Road) dead-ends approximately 2.1 miles east of Magnolia and 2 miles west of the Winiger Gulch inlet of Gross Reservoir. There is a locked gate at that point with public motor vehicle access prohibited at that point. Beyond the gate, the road continues across ¼ mile of private land. It then proceeds east, next to the Winiger Gulch creek, across USFS and then Denver Water lands, ending (after another gate) at the inlet. This road is shown as FR 238 and called “Gross Reservoir Road” on the relevant USGS topographic quadrangle map; locally, it is known to some as the “Haul Road” (not to be confused with the Haul Road near the dam, discussed in the DEIS).

None of these road segments in Winiger Gulch “turn into” FR 359. Rather, FR 359 (also called Winiger Ridge Road on some maps) begins at CR 68, approximately 2 miles east of Magnolia Rd. at a seasonally-closed gate (called Winiger Ridge Recreation Access on Fig. 3.13-1, although the adjacent road is labeled with an incorrect number in that figure). It proceeds south up to the top of Winiger Ridge, then turns east and continues to the planned-to-be-inundated recreation areas along the western shore of Gross Reservoir. (Both Figs. 3.13-1 and 3.10-1 incorrectly label the Gross Reservoir Road in Winiger Gulch as “CR 97E/FR 359”; at that point, neither designation is correct.)

There used to be a very steep 4-wheel-drive trail dropping 200 feet from Winiger Ridge (near the point that FR 359 turns east) down into Winiger Gulch. This road was closed to motor vehicles several years ago by the USFS, in part because vehicles became trapped on the Gross Reservoir Road (it was [a] impossible to return up the steep trail and [b] access across the private segment of the road to the west is not permitted and was blocked).

It is preposterous to imagine that access between Gross Reservoir Road and Winiger Ridge (a 200 foot elevation difference) could be climbed by tree-hauling vehicles, even if legal access to Gross Reservoir Road from Lazy Z Road could be obtained. One supposes that arm-chair engineers looked at a map showing the trail connecting the two roads and failed to realize that topography prohibits vehicles from connecting at that point.

In short, the DEIS is hopelessly confused about routes that would be used to haul trees away from lands west of Gross Reservoir.”

9 June 2014 Clark & Y Chapman, FEIS: **Critique of Final Environmental Impact Statement for “Moffat Collection System Project” (Enlargement of Gross Reservoir)**

Winds:

► **The FEIS totally ignores the consequences (e.g. fires, dust pollution) of Gross Reservoir being located in one of the most extreme wind corridors in the United States. The incompetent analysis is unaware of relevant wind data by the nearby Boulder/Denver Weather Bureau, NCAR, and NOAA, mentioning instead weather data from outside the wind corridor.** We presented a map showing extreme wind conditions in our DEIS critique. The FEIS continues to ignore the frequent hurricane-force Chinook winds and it does not address the potential issues from wildfires (like the one on the shores of the Reservoir in 2000) or for fires caused by Project activities. Relevant mitigation for wind-driven dust, trucks toppled or blocked on CR 93, fire prevention or suppression, etc. does not appear to be discussed at all. That URS [DW’s consultant firm] is unaware that some of the nation’s chief meteorological organizations are located just 5 miles from Gross Dam exhibits mind-boggling technical incompetence. [#751-21, #751-22, #751-46, #751-65]

Response #751-21 & Response #751-22:

Gross Reservoir is located in one of the windiest localities in the United States. During autumn through spring, winds frequently exceed hurricane force during Chinook and Bora conditions in a corridor extending from Caribou down through Gross to Rocky Flats. In response to our criticism that the DEIS didn’t even mention Chinook winds and the general windy conditions in the Gross area, they respond: A site-specific analysis of wind conditions in the Gross Reservoir area has been added to FEIS Section 3.13.

This is NOT TRUE! There is zero “analysis” in this Section. They incorrectly claim that “wind data are not as available” as other meteorological parameters. They then show a table of mean

and maximum wind speeds by month for just two distant locations: Rocky Mtn. Airport (Jeffco) and Mountain Research Station (MRS: SW of Ward). They claim the data are for 2004-2007, but MRS data are sourced to a 1998 publication. The supposed lack of data is ridiculous. Much closer to Gross Reservoir than either of these stations are NOAA's Boulder Labs (including the Denver/Boulder Weather Bureau) and the National Center for Atmospheric Research. The NCAR weather website

<http://www.eol.ucar.edu/cgi-bin/weather.cgi?site=ml&period=5-minute&fields=tdry&fields=rh&fields=cpres0&fields=wspd&fields=wdir&fields=rain&units=english>

records winds on a minute-by-minute basis. The station is just 5 miles from Gross Dam, whereas the two stations in the FEIS are three to four times as far away. Detailed archives of these weather measurements are available on-line from the present back to at least 1996. NOAA's Earth Systems Research Laboratory in Boulder has a whole website devoted to wind records for Boulder: <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/psd/boulder/wind.html> where an introductory sentence reads: "Boulder has some of the highest peak winds of any city in the US."

The URS "analysis", which never addresses these unusually high winds near Gross Reservoir, is totally incompetent. They didn't even address the high-wind map we provided in our DEIS critique. We reproduce it here (see our DEIS critique for details). [Actually, we show this map in this Appendix in our 2018 FERC letter below.]

Roads 359 & 97E (Lazy Z):

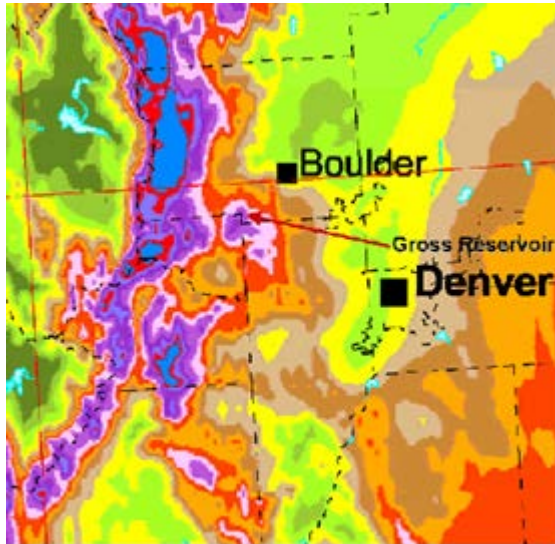
Response #751-16: FEIS Figure 3.12-1 was revised to include Magnolia Road. Construction related activity related to the dam raise would occur year-round, primarily on Denver Water property. Denver Water would coordinate with the USFS for tree removal access at the appropriate times.

Unfortunately, while the revision shows Magnolia Road, the portion from Lazy Z to Peak-to-Peak is incorrectly labeled as CR 97. The comment about "appropriate times" is in response to our pointing out that the road beyond the gate on Lazy Z is closed for many months on a seasonal basis. This is not an adequate consideration of road closure; if current regulations were adhered to, many of the roads the Project expects to use (e.g. 359) would be closed for about half of each year. The Project either is unaware of this major impact on their operations or they do not intend to adhere to the current road closures, which have solid justifications.

9 April 2018: Clark Chapman letter to FERC objecting to aspects of the February 2018 **"Supplemental Environmental Assessment for Amendment of Hydropower License"** for the "Gross Reservoir Hydroelectric Project" (FERC Project No. 2035-099).

Winds:

► The FEIS totally ignored the consequences (e.g. fires, dust pollution) of Gross Reservoir being located in one of the most extreme wind corridors in the United States. The incompetent analysis was unaware of relevant wind data by the nearby Boulder/Denver Weather Bureau, NCAR, and NOAA, mentioning instead weather data from far outside the wind corridor. The SEA continues to show zero awareness of the extreme winds at Gross Reservoir. In our critique of the Draft EIS, my wife and I presented a map (see below) showing extreme wind conditions in and around Gross Reservoir. The FEIS continued to ignore the frequent hurricane-force Chinook and Bora winds and it did not address the potential issues from wildfires (like the one on the shores of the Reservoir in 2000) or from fires caused by Project activities. Relevant mitigation for wind-driven dust, trucks toppled or blocked on CR 93, fire prevention or suppression, etc. was not discussed at all. That the Army Corps and Denver Water's contractor, URS, was unaware that some of the nation's chief meteorological organizations (with on-line reports of wind conditions from their weather stations) are located just 5 miles from Gross Dam exhibits mind-boggling technical incompetence. The word "wind" appears only once in the 142-pg. SEA,



and only in the obvious context that wind carries dust. While "dust" is frequently mentioned, there is no hint of the extreme conditions for which dust control measures would have to be designed. Indeed, Denver Water refuses to describe how this would be done and only promises a "Fugitive Dust Control Plan" for sometime in the future, which therefore cannot be evaluated and critiqued by citizens or competent meteorologists (I, for example, have a Master's Degree in Meteorology from M.I.T., and I have severe doubts that this massively dust-producing Project could possibly control fugitive dust during frequent Chinook and Bora winds with gusts that can exceed 125 mph). NOAA's Earth Systems Research Laboratory in Boulder has a whole website devoted to wind records for Boulder:

<http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/psd/boulder/wind.html> where

an introductory sentence reads: "Boulder has some of the highest peak winds of any city in the US." Why didn't the SEA address this remarkable hazard, ignored in the FEIS?

13 Nov. 2020, Clark & Y Chapman letter to Boulder County Commissioners, **1041 Permit Application of Denver Water ([Docket SI-20-0003](#))**

Winds

Comments on Gross Reservoir Being in an Exceptionally Windy Corridor

One searches in vain in this Application for a competent discussion of the exceptional weather at

Gross Reservoir, or even for an acknowledgement that it is different from almost anywhere else in the country. So the consultants who prepared this Application applied cookie-cutter templates to relevant parts of this report, which could be applied almost anywhere, with zero recognition of the frequent extreme hurricane-force Chinook winds that are characteristic of the corridor from Caribou and Nederland down through the Reservoir and extending out onto the Rocky Flats plains. (A word-search of the Application finds zero occasions of “Chinook”.) These dangerous winds near Gross Reservoir are not rare. Indeed, as we write this on the day input to the Commissioners is due, the Gross Reservoir region is under an official National Weather Service “High Wind Watch” for gusts to 75 mph beginning this evening.

These high winds are vital to project design in several ways that are missing from this Application. There is a Fugitive Dust Control Plan that is promised, but not until the future. It isn’t here for evaluation by experts or consideration by the public. In previous submissions, including this one, there is no awareness that frequent strong winds, often in the autumn and spring, create enormously greater dust problems than in most places in the United States. (Gusts in excess of 120 mph have been recorded in the adjacent town of Wondervu.)

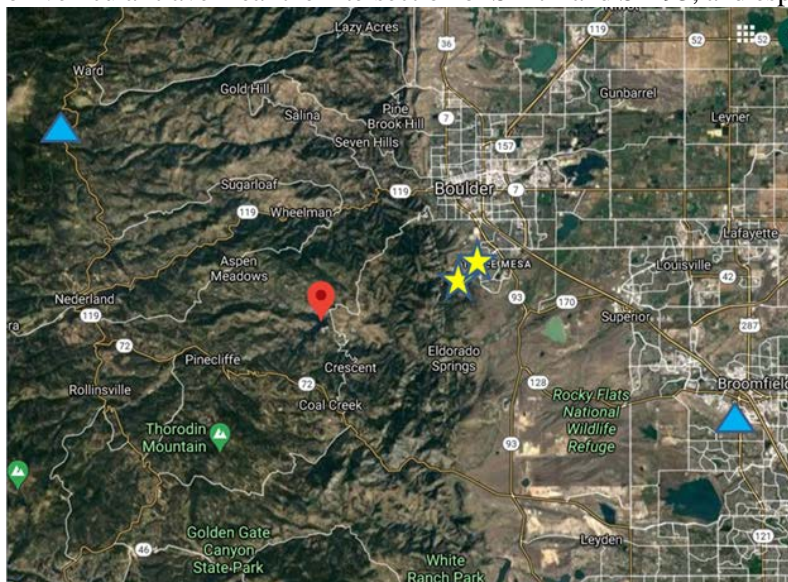
Another high-wind factor affecting this project is danger from wildfires. One of the largest wildfires in Boulder County in recent decades occurred on the east edge of Gross Reservoir in September 2000; fortunately, it was not especially windy on those days. But other recent fires in Boulder County and Arapaho Roosevelt National Forest have been extremely destructive because they were driven by extreme Chinook winds; these include the Fourmile Canyon fire in September 2010 and the very recent East Troublesome Fire in October 2020. So where is the Fire Management Plan in this 1041 Application? Apparently it is for the future and is not available for review by the public or the Commissioners:

“Denver Water will develop a new Fire Management and Response Plan to reduce the risk of wildfires at and near Gross Reservoir.”

The Application further states that it will apply usual “standards” to fire dangers instead of evaluating the unusual local situation:

“...the Project will not be subject to significant risk from floods, fires, earthquakes or other disasters or natural hazards and therefore Denver Water believes that the Standard has been attained.” [pg. 333]

Yet another high-wind issue totally ignored in the Application is the effect of hurricane-force winds on vehicular travel near the intersection of SH 72 and SH 93, and especially on SH 93 extending north and



south from that intersection (perpendicular to the wind direction) toward Boulder and Golden. Trucks and high-profile vehicles are frequently blown over on SH 93, the U.S. Weather Bureau often issues high-wind warnings for this highway, and SH 93 is sometimes closed to prevent blow-overs or because of high snow drifts. These winds might affect dam construction or forestry operations. But who knows because the preparers of the Application are oblivious to these highly unusual wind conditions.

The Application actually mentions wildfires many times. And it even shows wind data. But incompetency reigns! The consultants actually write:

“Wind data are not as available as the other meteorological data; wind data for the years 2004 through 2007 for two sites near the Project vicinity, Broomfield Jefferson County Airport (KBJC) and Mountain Research Station (Boulder 14W) are provided in Table 62 (CISL 2010, NOAA 1998).”

Those two sites, far from the wind corridor, are shown by blue triangles on our first map. The red marker locates Gross Reservoir. Nationally renowned meteorology institutions, with their own weather stations, are located much closer to Gross (about 5 miles), as shown by the yellow stars (the nearby Boulder/Denver Weather Bureau, National Center for Atmospheric Research [NCAR], and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration [NOAA]). Their archives contain abundant wind data. We discussed this matter in our critiques of earlier DW submittals to the Army Corps and to FERC, but DW – as usual – ignored our input and the new consultants apparently based their irrelevant, sparse wind data on the faulty report of the earlier consultants.

In our 2010 critique of DW’s Draft Environmental Impact Statement, we presented a map (reproduced here as our second map) showing extreme wind conditions in the Gross Reservoir region. The Final Environmental Impact Statement released in 2014 continued to ignore the frequent hurricane-force Chinook and Bora winds. Indeed they answered our objection to the Draft EIS this way:

“A site-specific analysis of wind conditions in the Gross Reservoir area has been added to FEIS Section 3.13.”

That was actually a lie. There was zero analysis in that Section. Indeed the same wording about inadequate availability of wind data, later copied by the new consultants into the current 1041 Application, was there, along with the same data from the two remote weather stations. DW just doesn’t care to correct its mistakes, even after ten years!

NOAA’s Earth Systems Research Laboratory in Boulder has a whole website devoted to wind records for Boulder: <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/psd/boulder/wind.html> where an introductory sentence reads: “Boulder has some of the highest peak winds of any city in the US.” The Boulder County Commissioners should demand that, after ten years, DW address the high-wind issue in the competent and serious way it deserves.

[D.W.’s total reply (submitted to Boulder County in Feb. 2021) to our comments above about winds is wholly inadequate and insulting:

"As discussed in FERC Supplemental EA section 5.1.11, Air Quality, plans addressing dust control are proposed by Denver Water and are also required by USFS 4(e) Condition 19. These plans would require approval by FERC and will incorporate important local conditions such as high winds."

Throughout D.W.’s submissions to FERC and Boulder County, the “Fugitive Dust Control Plan” is described as something to be developed “in the future,” so cannot be evaluated now. The Fire Management and Response Plan is also to be developed “in the future.” This is unacceptable. The Commissioners need to evaluate these plans NOW.]

]

Roads 359 & 97E (Lazy Z)

“For tree removal from the west side of the Gross Reservoir, the proposed route includes approximately 3.2 miles of travel on Lazy Z Road (CR 97E) to County Road (CR) 132 and approximately 24 miles of travel on SH 119 between US 6 and CR 132. Transport of these materials will result in increased traffic on the west side access routes, however the existing traffic volumes on these roadways is very low and impacts to the traveling public will not be significant.” [pg. v]

Note that the stretch of Magnolia from the intersection of Lazy Z with CR 132 to the intersection of CR 132 with SH 119 is omitted. And the hundreds of residents who live along these dirt/gravel roads, and “travel” by bicycle, horse, or by walking/running would beg to differ with the bogus statement – which also appears in the main text of the Application -- that “impacts to the traveling public will not be significant.” Not only would they be “significant”, they might largely banish these activities. Why weren’t these impacts analyzed? It seems as though the Design Engineer for this study must live in an urban area where people “travel” only by cars or on sidewalks.

One attribute of the FS 359/Lazy Z route that is mentioned in the Application but given no consideration is the fact that FS 359 and the eastern half of Lazy Z have, for decades, been closed to the public by the USFS for many months in the winter and spring to protect wildlife habitat. There have been good reasons for those closures. Yet there is no discussion in Exhibit 4 about how these sensitive lands will be similarly protected when used for hauling away timber.

Moreover, the engineering analysis seems to be technically incompetent. The major feature of the proposed truck route involves construction of a new 0.15-mile-long road to connect FS 359 to Lazy Z Rd. Unfortunately, nobody looked at the feasibility of doing that. Had the engineers visited the site, or just looked at a topographic map, they would have realized that there is a >200 foot drop along the 0.15-mile (790 ft.) distance. All kinds of measurements of grades along various roads in the area are reported in this study, but they ignore the >25% grade along their proposed new road connector. Not only can logging trucks not climb or descend such a grade, even four-wheel-drive jeeps and ATV’s often got stuck down on Lazy Z Road (hemmed in by the locked gate), unable to climb back up to FS 359 in the years before the USFS permanently closed the dirt road that connected the two. What are Stantek Consultants thinking???

Indeed, the study proposes to build a short, nearly straight road, not a much longer, winding road to enable truckers to ascend or descend the grade:

“PLAN TO BE CONSTRUCTED” above refers to approx. 0.15 miles of new roadway that is planned to be constructed to connect FS 359 to Lazy Z Road to allow for tree removal traffic to travel between these two roads.” [Caption to Fig. 2-2]

Actually, Fig. 3-1 shows a slightly longer route for the proposed connector, but it would still have an average grade of ~20%. Lazy Z Rd. simply cannot be used as a route to truck out materials from lands around FS 359. There are alternate routes, not analyzed in the report, but they present equally challenging (if different) issues.

[What is Denver Water’s Feb. 2021 response to our lengthy analysis of this mythical connector road? Absolutely no response. They have no coded response to any of these comments. Once again, ever since 2010, they continue to largely ignore the 200-foot altitude difference a connector road would have to make. And they ignore all other issues we have raised about their serious mistakes concerning CR97E/Lazy Z Rd.]

From: [Lynette Clark](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: Gross reservoir expansion
Date: Friday, May 21, 2021 9:20:19 AM

Hi! I spoke with Dana yesterday and she gave me information on where to find figures and designs for their planned layout of this project.

The quarry proposed quarry site will be directly across from where my husband and I live and this will be hard to live with noise day and nite. We do not have air conditioning and need to have our windows open at nite in the summer to cool the house down. This will be hard to sleep. Plus the constant noise of cutting, blasting, back up beepers.

I have lived in the mountains various times over the 47 years of living in this state and have fought having a rock quarry up here for those reasons listed above. It takes a lot to live in the mountains and it's worth every bit of it to keep it peaceful and beautiful with the wildlife we get to see for living up here.

The highway 72 is the only way in and out of the canyon and have concerns about trucks driving this in the winter with the snow, the regular traffic and school buses. Snowplows will be hindered as well, plus any emergency vehicles. Plus the bicycles that travel up or down the canyon. We don't have the expensive houses up here as Flagstaff road does but we are every bit as concerned about this project.

I don't think they will be careful with all the tree cutting since the fresh sap will attract the pine and nips beetles. We up here have already been thru several seasons of fighting these beetles by spraying our trees.

At the most, Colorado should be considering zero scape because of this semi arid area we live in. I don't understand why the new subdivisions wing built are required to follow this protocol. So many people from the Midwest and East or rainy area move here and still want green Kentucky bluegrass for their lawns. We will turn into Phoenix Arizona because people have green lawns there and now it's humid.

I thought there was more efficient methods besides a reservoir to collect water. This is something to be explored. Denver Water isn't in this to "help" the state to have and retain more water.....they are a business that wants to make money.

If they will be controlling and making more money why can't they have the expense of creating a new road or railway to not take over a state highway for their profit.

The river is a whole other topic which I am sure you have heard plenty about it.

I appreciate the time you all take to review this email and please consider all that has been said in the past over this issue of the expansion.

L. Clark

Sent from my iPad

From: [Karen Tourian](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#); [Boulder County Board of Commissioners](#)
Subject: Gross Dam expansion
Date: Thursday, May 20, 2021 8:44:40 PM

Dear Commissioners et al,

I have reviewed the updated traffic control plan dated 3 May 2021 submitted by Denver Water in their 1041 application to Boulder County, and it is still deficient in numerous ways. For example:

- Considerable plans have been made to modify the intersection of CO 72 and Gross Dam Rd, but there is only passing reference to needing to widen Gross Dam Rd to accomodate trucks passing each other, without concrete plans of how this would be done. The sections where this would need to occur are on terraced cuts into a very steep hillside. It would presumably require blasting into the rock above the road on the upslope side to widen the road surface, likely an extensive and disruptive project in itself.
- There is no plan to address maintenance of this gravel roadway, which with the proposed truck traffic would need constant (ie, daily?) regrading. Denver Water is already deficient in maintenance of their section of Gross Dam Rd with current traffic levels.
- The plan mentions bicycle traffic warnings, but only on CO 72 and CO 119, not on Gross Dam Rd itself. The level of consistent two way truck traffic and nowhere to pull over or off the road will make this road, which is currently a prominent cycling artery, quite trecherous.
- Although the plan mentions that Flagstaff Rd will be off limits to truck traffic, it is labeled on their maps as a worker's commuting route. Flagstaff Rd has already experienced huge increases in tourist traffic in the past few years, and can not really absorb the extra impact of 50-101 worker vehicle's twice daily commutes at the same time of year that tourist visits are at their highest.
- The logging removal routes require use of roads that are noted to not be able to handle the truck traffic, again with vague language about wideing/improving the road but no details or clear plans about how that would occur, if even possible. There is also no real plan regarding where the trees would go after removal- using the roads that feed into 119 would take them either further south to Idaho Springs, east to Boulder via Boulder Canyon, or further up Peak to Peak? What is the impact to these roads from these logging trucks?

With the starting point that this whole project is futile, since there will not be adequate water from the Western Slope to ever fill the expanded reservoir, the impact of the project on traffic in Boulder County and the surrounding areas will be devastating, and thus this plan has an unfavorable risk-benefit ratio for Boulder County and the surrounding areas.

Kind regards,

Karen Tourian
Boulder, CO

From: [Lori Thorne-Smith](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: vehemently OPPOSED to proposed plan to expand Gross Reservoir
Date: Thursday, May 20, 2021 3:50:35 PM

I am a 20 year resident of Aspen Meadows Rd. in the Gross Dam area. This needless, greedy destructive grab by Denver Water and the Army Corps of Engineers will wreak terrible havoc on this beautiful quiet area for (SERIOUSLY) YEARS AND YEARS TO COME. Please see through this for what it is: a way to make MONEY with no regard for the unnecessary ruin of MANY people's lives by a greedy corporate gang of dimwits who care nothing about beauty and peace.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Elias Berbari](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: Gross Dam Expansion
Date: Wednesday, May 19, 2021 4:35:53 PM

As a Boulder resident, I do not think Denver Water has outlined their environmental mitigation plans thoroughly enough. I strongly oppose this expansion due to the facts that we know right now and the negative impacts it would have on Boulder residents, wildlife, and our air/water.

--

Elias Berbari
University of Colorado, Boulder
Masters of the Environment - Sustainable Food Systems

From: [Steve Spry](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: Gross Dam Expansion
Date: Wednesday, May 19, 2021 8:06:20 AM

Dear Commissioners,

I am opposed to the expansion of Gross Reservoir, for all the reasons you've already heard.

Thanks for all you do.

Steve Spry

199 Broken Fence Rd.

Boulder, CO

From: [Michael Horwith](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: Stop Gross Res Expansion
Date: Wednesday, May 19, 2021 7:58:22 AM

I'd like to add my voice to those opposed to the expansion of Gross Res. The negative impact of this project on residents, wildlife and quality of life in Boulder county can not be overstated. As a wildlife videographer who spends almost everyday in Boulder county collecting video of lions, moose, elk, deer, beaver, bobcat, and other animals I see the regular impact of humans on the dwindling populations of birds and mammals. This project will have a huge impact on the very things that make Boulder county a great place to live and visit.

Nature is enough.

Michael Horwith

From: [john mattson](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: Gross damn
Date: Wednesday, May 19, 2021 7:20:21 AM

Dear folks, This is an absurd project that must not be allowed. The impact during construction will be horrible, and the idea of stealing more water from the western slope cannot go on forever. Thanks, John Mattson, Nederland, CO.

John Mattson Design-Build <http://www.johnmattsondesign-build.com>
Dancing on the Edge of an Endangered Planet <http://www.danceonedge.com>

From: [Nicole Neu-Yagle](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: Damage to ecosystem for what?
Date: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 7:20:55 PM

The gross dam expansion project is a desperate and damaging grasp to avoid inevitable hard decisions or actually helpful actions which Denver is eager to avoid. The potential water to be supplied is so minuscule, while the damage to an important wildlife habitat and recreation site is so great, there is no other explanation. Such an investment is laughable when other options are regarded. Just because it was set up to be potentially expanded does not mean it should. Have we learned nothing in that time, and shall we forever move forward with old, outdated plans despite new technological advancements? Stop the gross dam expansion.

From: [Eliza H Zimmerman](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: Re: Docket # SI-20-0003
Date: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 5:28:13 PM

Dear Boulder County Community Planning and Permit Department,

I am writing to add to my concerns with the Gross Dam Expansion proposal.

From reading the Traffic Management Plan submitted by Denver Water, I believe the affected areas will be a nightmare. The unpaved roads are not made to support heavy trucks with full loads. Roads (paved or unpaved) are not wide enough to accommodate big semi trucks passing each other from each direction. The trucks will have a hard time climbing the steep terrains. Traffic will also slow significantly down. Most of these roads are windy. SH 72, SH 119, US 6, CR 132 has many miles of guardrails which will prevent trucks to pull over to allow cars to pass if they can't keep up with the speed limit and have a long line of cars behind them. There are really not many shoulders wide or long enough for these truck to pull into either. It is not true as Denver Water stated that "the impacts to the traveling public will not be significant" because traffic traveling is low. In Winter/Spring time in snow condition, all vehicles are required to carry chains and depending on the condition, some are required to put on chains. There will not even be areas to accommodate trucks to put chains on. With chains on these trucks, the roads will get tore up easily and not to mention they will be even slower climbing up the mountain roads.

In addition, the estimated 7 years of construction time will be absolutely devastating to residents in Coal Creek Canyon and communities around the Gross Reservoir with noise pollution coming from trucks, blasting, helicopters, or general construction noise. The time estimation does not account for weather delays. The weather in the mountains is different and it is not uncommon to still have heavy snow in March-May. In fact, our snowiest/heaviest months are March and April. We have heavy spring snow in May as well. Road conditions are haphazardness in Winter and Spring. A 7 year proposal could easily extend indefinitely.

The construction of the new dam is not the only option for Denver Water. They have not exercised the water conservation option. Denver Water needs to limit their customers' water usage. Water conservation should be number one option to exercise before looking into other options. If their customers are not conserving water on a regular basis, no amount of water will be enough even if we can fill the reservoir with the taller dam.

Best,

Eliza Zimmerman
Property Owner in Coal Creek Canyon

On Thursday, October 8, 2020, 9:05:32 AM MDT, Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003
<grossreservoir@bouldercounty.org> wrote:

Good morning, Eliza.

Thank you for your comments related to docket SI-20-0003: Gross Reservoir & Dam Expansion. Your email has been added to the project file and is available for review as part of the public record.

Please read the attached memo to learn more about the extension of the referral review period recently granted by Community Planning & Permitting Director, Dale Case. This extension has been granted in order to provide additional time for referral agencies and the public to review the submitted application materials. The application materials can be found through a link found on this webpage: <https://www.bouldercounty.org/property-and-land/land-use/planning/denver-water-gross-reservoir/>

Also note, while we encourage community members to submit comments prior to November 13, the County accepts public comment continuously until the date of public hearing. All public comments that are received before one week prior to the public hearing are included in the staff recommendation packet that is forwarded to the reviewing body (e.g., the Planning Commission or Board of County Commissioners). Any public comments received during that week prior to the public hearing are forwarded to the reviewing body and acknowledged during staff's presentation.

I hope this is helpful information, please feel free to get in touch via email if you have questions or would like additional information.

Regards,
Summer

Summer Frederick, AICP

Planning Division Manager

Boulder County Community Planning & Permitting Department

Direct: 720-564-2603

Main: 303-441-3930

sfrederick@bouldercounty.org

www.bouldercounty.org

PLEASE NOTE: In an effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, the Boulder County Community Planning & Permitting physical office at 2045 13th St. in Boulder is CLOSED to the public until further notice. We will continue to operate remotely, including the online acceptance of building permits and planning applications. Please visit our webpage at www.boco.org/cpp for more detailed information and contact emails for groups in our department. You may also leave a message on our main line at 303-441-3930 and the appropriate team member will return your call. ***Thank you for your adaptability and understanding in this extraordinary time!***

From: Eliza H Zimmerman <echowe1@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 7, 2020 7:37 AM
To: Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003 <grossreservoir@bouldercounty.org>
Subject: Docket # SI-20-0003

Dear Boulder County Commissioners,

In regards to the 1041 review for the expansion of Gross Dam and Reservoir, I am oppose to the expansion. If approved, the negative impact to the environment, the neighboring areas, the noise pollution, the added heavy traffic, the wildlife and the quality of life to residents will be devastating and for an expansion that is totally unnecessary. The greater negative impact to the rivers and wildlife/fish has yet to be seen in the future if this expansion is approved and completed. It is impossible to predict or verify what Denver Water had stated in their 'studies' and results in supporting their claims in order to obtains all permits. The 370 page application definitely will need to be looked at and verify as well. This process will need time and real studies to validate. Their studies/claims need to be updated as well. I urge the commissioners to take your time to study and investigate their claims. This expansion doesn't just affect us now, it will haunts us for years while it is being built and the ill effects will continue to haunts us, our children and the environments forever. There will be no turning back to replace the trees that are lost, the animals/birds/fish that will perish from this project. Denver Water should consider conversation of water option for their clients. I grew up in the Bay Area in CA and water conversation has always been a way of living in CA. I have seen in the cities here how wasteful many people are of our water. Sprinklers would be on timers that would come on automatically...even on a rainy day. Broken sprinklers or non maintained ones are shooting waters into the sidewalks. People leaving their hoses with water running. I can also imagine faucet on with water running full stream when brushing teeth...etc. Denver Water has to exercised all options in water conservation. Building a bigger dam to store water that may never be there to fill it will not solve any water need problems in the future.

The Corp of Engineering sure didn't do their job conducting, reviewing or verifying all the studies. Please do not rush the process but to take the time to verify all their documents. We cannot afford to make the mistakes that will affect us for life.

Sincerely,

Eliza Zimmerman

From: [Kelly Borden](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: Expansion
Date: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 3:17:22 PM

We r not interested in this invasion & destruction from DW in our beautiful canyon that we have called home for 30 years. We can't accommodate everyone who wants to live here. Time to close & lock the gate!!!

Sent from my iPhone

From: mdreilly@mdreilly.com
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: Gross Dam Expansion
Date: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 2:31:39 PM

Dear Boulder County Commissioners,

Although I am a resident of Jefferson County, I am writing to you because of your critical role in deciding the fate of the Gross Dam Reservoir Expansion. I will be seriously impacted by your decision because I travel Hwy 72 up Coal Creek Canyon. This project will cause noise, pollution, disruption, and delays. There will likely be accidents on the roads caused by the many huge heavy trucks necessary for the project. And for what? To expand a dam in order to hold water which Denver Water does not have and cannot obtain without bullying other users and in the long run, stealing water from others. There are many ways to conserve water, and studies show that conservation can work.

Please do not allow this project to go ahead. It has to be the biggest waste of money and the biggest environmental disaster facing Boulder County. I am asking you to vote it down for the good of everyone on the Front Range.

Thank you,

Sincerely
Michael Reilly
Coal Creek Canyon
303-543-2207

From: [Rebecca Dickson](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: please reject this bad idea
Date: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 12:52:05 PM

Dear County Commissioners:

Denver Water is still determined to expand Gross Dam, even though thousands of Boulder County residents oppose the plan. Please reject this bad idea. The construction process and the higher dam itself will damage the environment and undermine the quality of life for thousands of people.

My best,

Rebecca Dickson
1055 Waite Drive
Boulder, Colorado 80228
303/499-7261

From: [Candace Welch](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: Docket #SI-20-0003
Date: Friday, April 16, 2021 1:05:13 PM

Hello,

Denver Water apparently believes in magical thinking. An extra 300 ft of dam will have no effect on diminishing snowpack.

The anticipated rewriting of the Colorado River Compact in 2026 is going to be a big wake up call for the Upper Basin and certainly the burgeoning Front Range.

The call for water was made on the Yampa River last year. Sirens are ringing. The vernacular needs to change from drought to desertification. There's less and less water in the Colorado River.

The proposal by Denver Water is preposterous.

Please don't sacrifice the recreation we enjoy at Gross. Let's look for long term solutions.

Best,

Candace Welch

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sandy Hollingsworth](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: Letter of comments regarding Gross Dam Expansion Tree Removal Plan
Date: Monday, April 12, 2021 3:15:17 PM
Attachments: [Gross Reservoir Tree Plan April 12 2021 final.pdf](#)

Dear Board of County Commissioners of Boulder County,

Please find attached the letter of comment from the Gilpin County Board of Commissioners. We wanted to reply today, April 12, 2021, to meet the comment deadline. We are writing to express our oppositions regarding the Gross Dam Expansion Tree Removal Plan. We have asked Denver Water and also ask you, the Boulder County Board of Commissioners, to take them into consideration on behalf of the residents and county of Gilpin.

Thank you for hearing our oppositions and some alternatives to the Tree Removal Plan as proposed, should it move forward. In the past we have voiced opposition for environmental and wildlife impacts plus disruption to residents and businesses as your neighboring county. We emphasize the need for water conservation throughout Colorado including the Denver metro area.

Sandy Hollingsworth
Gilpin County Commissioner, District 3
720.646.8301
shollingsworth@gilpincounty.org
PO Box 366, Central City, CO 80427

From: [Christel Markevich](#)
To: [Boulder County Board of Commissioners; Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: No to Gross Dam Expansion
Date: Thursday, April 8, 2021 5:09:33 PM

Hi,

Denver Water's Gross Dam Expansion proposal is outdated.

We now live in the 21st century and we need to think holistically. Denver Water's Gross Dam Expansion project is bad for the environment, for our community, for other communities who rely on the Colorado River in their daily life, and for our future. There are now many creative and sustainable solutions to explore and to implement instead of jumping on old destructive habits.

I strongly encourage Boulder County Commissioners to use all the power they have with 1041 to stop this insidious project.

Best,
Christel

From: [Anyll Markevich](#)
To: [Boulder County Board of Commissioners; Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#)
Subject: No to the Gross Dam Expansion
Date: Thursday, April 8, 2021 12:17:38 PM

Dear Commissioners,

I strongly oppose the Gross Dam Expansion project as it threatens our environment, our community (and it's safety), and the the values that Boulder County stands for. I encourage you to do everything in your power to stop this horrible project, including using the 1041 process.

All the best and thank you for your time,
Anyll

From: [Alex Markevich](#)
To: [Gross Reservoir SI-20-0003](#); [Boulder County Board of Commissioners](#)
Subject: Denver Water's Gross Reservoir Expansion Project
Date: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 4:30:52 PM

Dear Boulder County Commissioners,

Denver Water's application to expand Gross Reservoir remains grossly inadequate in both its justifications for the project and its plans to execute the project. I urge you to use your 1041 powers to their fullest to ensure this project is either cancelled (the ideal outcome) or forced to comply with all Boulder County environmental, safety, and other regulations.

Regards,
Alex Markevich

[Alex Markevich](#)

5570 Magnolia Drive
Nederland, CO 80466

phone: 303.800.6450
ajmarkevich@gmail.com