Feedback crucial for NISP decision

Public can submit written comments through July 30

The final scheduled public hearing has been conducted on the draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Northern Integrated Supply Project (Glade Reservoir), but the public is encouraged to take advantage of other feedback opportunities.

For example, written comments on the draft statement may still be submitted through July 30.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will consider feedback, along with other information, in determining whether to recommend or deny a permit for the project estimated to cost the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District and its 15 partners more than $426 million to build. Those partnering communities seek to net about 40,000 acre-feet of water from NISP. Comments from the public also could help identify additional mitigation strategies.

Meantime, opponents of the major project that includes the construction of two reservoirs and the relocation of five miles of U.S. Highway 287 have asked for an extension of the public comment period. The initial comment period of 45 days was already extended to 90 days. Still, the additional extension is warranted to ensure this complicated project is fully vetted by government agencies, nearby cities (including Fort Collins) and key stakeholders.