

9/5/2012

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Gentlemen:

We are in receipt of a 5/21/2012 letter from Governor Hickenlooper to Colonel Robert Ruch of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regarding the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP) and the Halligan-Seaman draft environmental impact statements (DEISs), as well as Colonel Ruch's 7/7/2012 reply.

These letters refer to your agencies and their role in the possible "analysis and certification" for these two projects. In addition, the letter from Colonel Ruch indicated his desire that your agencies become involved "earlier in the process."

Indeed, we are pleased to acknowledge that your staff have already been playing advisory roles in the development of the draft and, in the case of NISP, supplemental EISs. We understand that your missions include "preserv(ing) and enhanc(ing) the state's natural resources for the benefit and enjoyment of current and future citizens and visitors" as well as "maintaining, restoring and improving the quality of the state's waters." Given these difficult but valuable missions, we are especially grateful for the vital roles that your agencies will play if these projects are in fact deemed permissible by the Corps.

You may be aware that in the case of NISP, serious questions have already been raised regarding issues that are critical to your agency's missions referenced above. These questions are in the Corps' record of public and agency comments received in response to the initial DEIS. The public comments are readily available on the Corp's websiteⁱ and many agency comments are available on our websiteⁱⁱ. Because the Halligan-Seaman DEIS has not yet been released, comments on that project are not yet available.

Our group, Save The Poudre: Poudre Waterkeeper, has also been periodically communicating additional information to the Corps for their benefit and consideration as they refine the DEIS for both projects, but especially for NISP. Since we believe that much of what we have already sent to the Corpsⁱⁱⁱ will also be relevant to the review your agencies may be charged with, and because the Governor has essentially pledged that your agencies will play a concerted role in the permitting process, we felt that it would be to everyone's advantage if we transmitted relevant portions to you.

Accordingly, by this letter, we are providing the following documents referenced on our website, all of which can be located here: <http://savethepoudre.org/stp-correspondence.html>

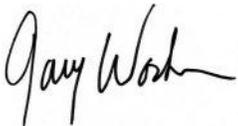
- [STP letter to Corps & EPA regarding fire impacts and NISP - 2012-07-12](#)
- [STP Letter to Corps regarding Fishery Potential for Glade Reservoir - 2012-05-04](#)
- [STP Letter to Corps Regarding Cumulative Impacts on the Poudre River - 2012-02-13](#)
- [STP Letter to Corps, Declining CBT Inflows - 2011-11-30](#)
- [STP Letter to Corps, Cumulative impacts of NISP, Halligan/Seaman, and WISE - 2011-10-07](#)
- [STP Letter to Corps, NISP Water for Fracking - 2011-09-26](#)
- [STP Letter to Corps, RE: Flow Recommendation for Cache la Poudre River - 2011-05-08](#)
- [STP Letter to Corps, EPA RE:Wetlands Impacts caused by the NISP- 2011-04-22](#)
- [STP Letter to Corps and EPA About Pathogen Pollution in Galeton Reservoir - 2011-04-13](#)
- [STP Letter to Corps, Bureau, EPA RE:NISP Impacts on Colorado River - 2011-04-10](#)
- [STP Letter to Corps RE:Oil and gas development under Galeton Reservoir/NEPA - 2011-03-08](#)
- [STP Alternatives to Halligan-Seaman, 2010-07-18](#)

As more relevant material becomes available from us, we will send it to you or the contact person(s) you designate.

We wish you and your agencies the best in the coming years. You play roles that are absolutely critical to current and future Coloradoans, and you must do so, often, with limited staff and monetary resources -- a challenging job in the best of cases. We appreciate what you do!

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter and let us know how we can help.

Sincerely,



Gary Wockner, Executive Director

cc: Governor John Hickenlooper
John Stulp, Senior Advisor to the Governor

ⁱ <http://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/html/od-tl/eis/nisp.deis.comments.htm>

ⁱⁱ <http://savethepoudre.org/eis-comments.html>

ⁱⁱⁱ <http://savethepoudre.org/stp-correspondence.html>