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Admin



STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER  
SANTA FE

John R. D'Antonio, Jr., P.E.  
State Engineer

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April 15, 2005

Mr. Rick L. Gold  
Regional Director  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Upper Colorado Regional Office  
125 South State Street, Room 6107  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1102

Dear Mr. Gold:

I accept the Recommendations for San Juan River Operations and Administration for 2005, dated November 15, 2004. The Recommendations have been endorsed by the ten major water users who are party to them, and provide a cooperative framework for operating Navajo Dam and administering the San Juan River during 2005. I wish to express my thanks to the Western Colorado Area Office staff, and to Mr. Pat Page in particular, for Reclamation's continued cooperation in facilitating cooperative agreements for the administration and distribution of water in the San Juan River Basin in New Mexico.

Please be advised, however, that by accepting the Recommendations, I am not accepting or agreeing with the statements, claims, and arguments presented by the Bloomfield Irrigation District in its Endorsement and Agreements letter signed March 15, 2005. As I indicated in my January 21, 2005, letter to you, the Office of the State Engineer during the course of 2005 will proceed towards promulgation of rules and regulations for administering water rights within the San Juan River Basin in New Mexico. Also, I continue to support the Preferred Alternative of the Navajo Reservoir Operations Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Please call me or Mr. John Whipple of the Interstate Stream Commission staff if you have any questions regarding these matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John R. D'Antonio, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

John R. D'Antonio, Jr., PE  
State Engineer

Copy: Pat Page