

June 21, 2006

U. S. Senator Wayne Allard  
521 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Allard:

I write today to support the efforts of the Colorado Water Conservation Board and the South Platte River Chatfield Reservoir Reallocation Environmental/Ecosystem Restoration Project Coalition to secure funding for the next phase of the Chatfield reallocation Environmental Impact Statement and to ask for your help in doing so as well.

To ensure that we are able to move forward with this important project, I ask that you work with your colleagues to restore \$500,000 in the FY 2007 Senate Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers General Investigations Account for the purpose of funding the FY2007 work on the project's EIS. The Colorado Water Conservation Board is the local sponsor for the EIS.

As Colorado continues to grow, particularly in the Denver metro area, it becomes increasingly necessary to look at the resources we have to determine whether we can put existing infrastructure to better use. The U.S.A.C.E. has determined that Chatfield Reservoir can accommodate an additional 20,000 acre feet of storage space without limiting its usefulness as a flood control structure. This additional storage space will be utilized by a group of water providers, farmers and environmental organizations to meet the diverse needs of our growing state. It is imperative that the current EIS move forward in a timely fashion, which means that funding for the EIS must move forward in a timely fashion.

We simply cannot lose time for this rare opportunity to maximize the use of the river for multiple needs by delaying completion of the EIS. I appreciate the work that you do on our behalf, and ask for your support of this very important endeavor. We have worked hard to bring and keep this unique coalition together. Please help us see this project to its beneficial conclusion.

Thank you for your time. I look forward to working with you and your office in the future. If you have questions, please contact myself or Tom Browning, (303) 866-4804, at the Colorado Water Conservation Board.

Sincerely,

Russell George  
Executive Director