

WASP



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November 25, 1986

Mr. Kevin B. Pratt  
Fairfield & Woods  
1600 Colorado National Building  
950 17th Street  
Denver, CO 80202

Mr. C.L. Thomson  
General Manager  
Southeastern Colorado Water  
Conservancy District  
Box 440  
Pueblo, CO 81002

Dear Mr. Pratt and Mr. Thomson:

The engineering report entitled "Winter Storage Program" is attached. This hydrologic assignment was undertaken in accordance with your request.

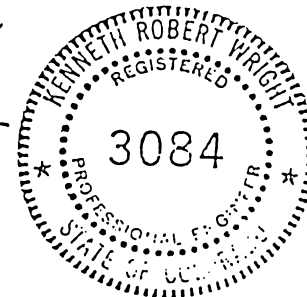
The Winter Storage Program decree would represent a major step towards needed water conservation and water management. The conditions and limitations to be incorporated into the decree, as explained in the report, will provide safeguards to the participants and will protect other decreed water rights in the Arkansas River basin from injury.

Very truly yours,

WRIGHT WATER ENGINEERS, INC.

By Charles R. Haines  
Charles R. Haines

By Kenneth R. Wright  
Kenneth R. Wright, P.E.



(1.8)  
741-017.590  
Attachment

ENGINEERING REPORT  
WINTER STORAGE PROGRAM

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## SECTION I INTRODUCTION

The Winter Storage case was filed in the District Court, Water Division 2, on December 26, 1984, and assigned Case No. 84CW179. This Wright Water Engineers report is to provide an engineering evaluation and technical summary of the Pueblo Reservoir Winter Storage Program. This report outlines the engineering basis for the terms and conditions of the winter storage proposed decree.

### BACKGROUND OF THE WINTER STORAGE PROGRAM

Winter storage of direct flow irrigation water used during the non-growing months was first envisioned almost fifty years ago by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and local irrigators during the earliest investigation of the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project.

It was determined that when Pueblo Dam was constructed it should contain sufficient space for the storage of decreed waters during the non-growing months in the winter. Such space was provided.

The development of the Winter Storage Program required that unanimous agreement be reached among the owners of the agricultural decrees to permit the storage of such waters in accordance with state water law. Representatives from the District and each of the irrigation and canal companies began to hold meetings in 1969, and when Pueblo Dam was completed in 1975, unanimous agreement was reached to begin a "Voluntary Winter Storage Program." The Winter Storage Program held several attractions for the participants; direct-flow entities could store water for use at a time of year when use was more effective and labor problems of winter irrigation were avoided, and storage entities, which had seen feast or famine swings in their storage supplies, would receive a more reliable quantity for use.