Pueblo, Colorado  
December 30, 1969

Mr. James L. Ogilvie, Project Manager  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Fryingpan-Arkansas Project  
P. O. Box 515  
Pueblo, Colorado 81002

Dear Mr. Ogilvie:

In order to meet the needs for growth of the cities of Colorado Springs and Pueblo, it is necessary that these cities seek additional water supplies. Both cities have been in the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District since its inception and have a common interest in the development and well-being of the Arkansas River Valley. The present water supplies in the Arkansas River Basin and the supplemental water to be provided by the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project (to be administered by the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District), are insufficient to meet the water needs for all purposes in the Arkansas River Valley— including present irrigation needs for agriculture. Therefore, with increased use of water for municipal and industrial purposes in the Arkansas River Valley, any diversion to these M & I uses of water already being utilized for established economies such as agriculture, will be detrimental to the economies of the entire Arkansas River Basin as well as the State of Colorado.

The cities of Colorado Springs and Pueblo recognize their dependence upon and responsibility to a continued healthy rural economy which is vital for the well-being of the entire Arkansas River Basin. Therefore, rather than appropriate irrigation waters for municipal and industrial purposes, Colorado Springs and Pueblo are jointly seeking other sources of water necessary to meet our future needs. Our attention is drawn to Ruedi Reservoir, the replacement reservoir for the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project, as a possible source for such augmentation.

The primary purpose of Ruedi Reservoir is to provide replacement water in the Colorado River Basin for that water diverted to the east slope by the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project. The Ruedi Dam and Reservoir which has been completed, is capable of storing 100,000 acre feet of water.
Water supply and use studies reported in House Document No. 353, entitled "Ruedi Dam and Reservoir, Colorado" indicate an annual average depleted inflow to the reservoir of 125,700 acre feet, based upon the 1911 to 1957 period of record. Additional water releases for industrial and municipal use in Western Colorado are given as 34,600 acre feet annually for requirements in the year 2014. Net annual required fish releases are estimated to be 23,300 acre feet. Releases for downstream rights and project replacement are estimated at 20,000 acre feet annually. It is apparent, therefore, that for a period of many years there will be an annual supply of water in excess of 47,800 acre feet available for uses other than those given above. Considering the probability of future augmentation of the Colorado River, this water supply may be available for such other uses on a permanent basis.

The method of disposition of the water supply available from Ruedi Reservoir is provided in House Document No. 130, 87th Congress, 1st Session, entitled "Operating Principles, Fryingpan-Arkansas Project." The provisions of Sec. 6 of said Operating Principles are as follows:

"6. (a) The replacement capacity of Ruedi Reservoir, and any reservoir constructed in addition thereto, is that portion of the total reservoir capacity required to permit project diversions at times when such diversions could not otherwise be made because of simultaneous demands of senior diversions in western Colorado existing at the time of the adoption of these operating principles, and shall be so operated to accomplish this purpose. Water stored in such capacity shall be released by the United States, upon the request of the Colorado State engineer, to the extent that water would have been available to said decreed rights except for stream depletion resulting from diversions by this project to the Arkansas Valley.

(b) The regulatory capacity of Ruedi Reservoir, and any reservoir constructed in addition thereto, is that portion of the total reservoir capacity not needed for replacement purposes. Water stored in such category may be sold or leased by the United States to water users in Colorado for any purpose recognized by the laws of the United States: Provided, That the sale of water for use outside the natural basin of the Colorado River can only be made with the consent of the Colorado River Water Conservation district. Charges for the use of such water shall be established by the Secretary of the Interior by appropriate contract in accordance with the payment ability of such water users."

Because additional waters will be necessary for the continued growth and well-being of the entire Arkansas River Valley, the cities of Colorado Springs and Pueblo
are interested in the possibility of acquiring a portion of the water available from Ruedi Reservoir for future municipal use by the two cities. We recognize the paramount interest of the Colorado River Water Conservation District in this matter and have informally advised them of our interest. We would like to request a meeting with you to explore terms and conditions under which the cities of Pueblo and Colorado Springs might purchase such water from the United States for use by the two cities.

Respectfully submitted,

T. Eugene McCleary, Mayor
City of Colorado Springs, Colorado

Owen G. McKinney, President
Board of Water Works of Pueblo, Colorado

cc:  Mr. A. Allen Brown, President of the Board
     Colorado River Water Conservation District
     P. O. Box 218
     Glenwood Springs, Colorado 81601

Mr. Frank E. Maynes, Attorney for the Board
Southwestern Colorado Water Conservation District
P. O. Box 1157
Durango, Colorado 81301

Mr. Felix L. Sparks, Director
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1945 Sherman Street, 102 Columbine Building
Denver, Colorado 80203

Mr. Charles L. Thomson, General Manager
Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District
P. O. Box 440
Pueblo, Colorado 81002
### Ruedi Reservoir
#### From House Document No. 353

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period (water supply)</th>
<th>1929-1948</th>
<th>1911-1948</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undepleted flows at Ruedi Res.</td>
<td>171,500 (p. 29)</td>
<td>195,900 (p. 29)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less depletion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bust-Ivanhoe diver.</td>
<td>1/4(4,400) (p. 34)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fryingpan Arkansas diver.</td>
<td>(57,900) (p. 34)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total transmountain diver.</td>
<td>62,300 (p. 34)</td>
<td>70,200 (p. 30)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depleted reservoir inflow</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reservoir evaporation</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish bypasses</td>
<td>23,300 (p. 34)</td>
<td>23,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downstream rights and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fryingpan Arkansas replacements</td>
<td>20,000 (p. 34)</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identified municipal and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>industrial for oil shale</td>
<td>34,600 (p. 34)</td>
<td>34,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remaining for other western slope development</td>
<td>30,500</td>
<td>47,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Needed for Basalt from Fryingpan River and Ruedi Res.</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shortage or excess</td>
<td>-9,500</td>
<td>+7,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1/ Recently increased to 6,400 acre-feet by contract between the United States and the Highline Canal Company for transportation and storage of water in the Fryingpan Arkansas Project facilities.

2/ This figure does not include the additional releases required to avoid reservoir spills or undependable winter releases. Therefore this total may be reduced an additional 10,000 acre-feet to 30,000 acre-feet for dependable supply.