



EAGLE VALLEY LIBRARY DISTRICT

Phase II of Homestake Water Project

Application for approval by the Eagle County Board of County Commissioners submitted by the City of Colorado Springs and the City of Aurora

Processed by:
Jaci Spuhler February 2009

Description of Collection

Origination: Permit application file maintained by Eagle County and collected by the Eagle Public Library.

Title: Application for approval of Homestake Phase II Water Project

Physical Description: Part 1: Application document to Eagle County, Colo., with attachments 1-31 in support of the application [in 3-ring binder]. Part 2: Response by the cities of Aurora and Colorado Springs, with attachments 32-60, to the hearing by Eagle County, Colo., concerning the completeness of the application [folded and boxed].

Repository: Local History Collection, Eagle Library, Eagle Valley Library District, PO Box 240, 600 Broadway, Eagle, CO 81631

Location of Collection: For current location of this collection, please consult the Eagle Library Local History Department staff.

Collection Identification: REF 342.092 A6521 Part 1; REF 342.092 A6521 Part 2.

Administrative Information

Restriction on Access: The collection may be accessed in the Library with staff retrieval.

Restrictions on Use: The collection is used in the presence of Eagle Library Local History Collection staff.

Acquisition Information: Incorporated as part of the Eagle Public Library Local History Collection.

Custodial History (Provenance): The collection has been housed with the Eagle Public Library. Rehousing of Part 2 and processing occurred in February 2009.

Note (Abstract): The collection contains the application with attachments and additional attachments addressing the completeness of the application as submitted to the Eagle County Board of County Commissioners by the cities of Aurora and Colorado Springs. The date of the application is May 20, 1985. The date of the response is January 2, 1986. The attachments range in date from 1962 to 1986.

Preferred Citation: Application for approval of Homestake Phase II Water Project, Eagle Public Library, Eagle Valley Library District.

Processing Information: Processed by: Jaci Spuhler; completed February 2009

Arrangement: The application, as Part 1, and response, as Part 2, are arranged by date, with their respective attachments in numerical order.

Historical Note: The Homestake Water Project was completed in 1967, diverting 27,000 acre-feet of water from French Creek, Fancy Creek, Missouri Creek, Sopris Creek, Homestake Creek, and the East Fork of Homestake Creek into Homestake Reservoir in the Holy Cross Wilderness area of Eagle County. That water went to the cities of Colorado Springs and Aurora on the Front Range which had acquired water rights to the upper Eagle River basin in 1962. Those cities' rapid rate of growth instigated Homestake Phase II, designed to divert water from Cross Creek and Fall Creek, again in the Holy Cross Wilderness, through a series of four small dams and a 13-mile underground tunnel.

Concern for the meadows and high-altitude wetlands impacted by Homestake Phase II grew and the Holy Cross Wilderness Defense Fund was created in 1982 to fight the project. Eagle County denied Colorado Springs and Aurora the construction permits for Homestake Phase II. Litigation over the denial continued until, in 1994, the Colorado Court of Appeals upheld Eagle County's decision. In 1998, Aurora and Colorado Springs agreed to give up the Homestake Phase II project in favor of other alternatives.

“The Homestake II Project would have taken approximately 30,000 acre-feet of water annually from Cross and Fall Creeks within the boundaries of the Holy Cross Wilderness. The proposed project called for 57,000 feet of tunnels, 3,000 feet of pipeline and four diversion structures. Water collected from Homestake II would have been delivered to the existing Homestake reservoir for subsequent delivery to the Front Range. The cities still retain the water rights for Homestake II.” --Colorado River Water Conservation District Water Glossary [http://www.crwcd.org/page_100]

Subordinate Components: 1 4-inch 3-ring binder; 1 flip-top document case 12.5" x 10.25" x 5"

Appendix A: Collection Contents

Part 1:

May 20, 1985: Cover letter from Harold E. Miskel, City of Colorado Springs, Department of Utilities, to Eagle County Board of Commissioners, accompanying the application for approval of the Homestake Phase II Water Project. 23 p.

May 3, 1985: Application for Eagle County Land Use Control Permit for Major Extension of Existing Domestic Water System. 68 p.

Attachment 1: Final Environmental Impact Statement on Application for Land Use, Homestake Phase II Project, Eagle County, Colorado, Volume 1. 1983.

Attachment 2: Final Environmental Impact Statement on Application for Land Use, Homestake Phase II Project, Eagle County, Colorado, Volume 2. Excerpts.

Attachment 3: vacant

Attachment 4: vacant

Attachment 5: Sept. 30, 1983, letter from William A. Tolle, Denver Water Department, to Max H. Dodson, EPA, regarding Green Mountain exchange.

Attachment 6: February 3, 1983, memo from Board of County Commissioners of Summit County, to the West Slope Committee, regarding impact of the Green Mountain exchange on Summit County.

Attachment 7: February 10, 1983, memo from Grand County Board of Commissioners to West Slope Advisory Board, regarding impact of the Green Mountain exchange on Grand County.

Attachment 8: April 6, 1984, letter from William C. Robb, Welborn, Dufford & Brown, to Paul N. Seeley, Engineering Science, Inc., regarding institutional constraints on the Green Mountain exchange. 12 p.

Attachment 9: June 5, 1984, letter from Harold E. Miskel, City of Colorado Springs, to Col. Arthur E. Williams, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, regarding alternative methods (Green Mountain exchange) to developing the Homestake Project.

Attachment 10A: Record of Decision for Homestake Phase II Project Final Environmental Impact Statement, USDA Forest Service, Eagle County, Colorado.

Attachment 10B: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Permit and Record of Decision for Application 8122A under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for the Cities of Aurora and Colorado Springs, October 25, 1984.

Attachment 10C: July 9, 1954, letter from Jon Scherschligt, Colorado Department of Health, to Harold Miskel, City of Colorado Springs, regarding Section 401 Water Quality Certification #1057, Eagle County.

Attachment 11: Preliminary Plans and Specifications, Homestake Project, Water Collection System Phase II by Black & Veatch, Engineers-Architects.

Attachment 12: City of Colorado Springs Department of Public Utilities Service areas as of March 5, 1985 [map]

Attachment 13: Aurora Land Use Plan Map

Attachment 14: Adjudicated Water Rights, Cross and Fall Creeks, November 1981

Attachment 15: Water Supply System of the City of Aurora, Colorado [map]

Attachment 16: City of Colorado Springs Water Supply System [map]

Attachment 17: Report on Water Supply and Purification Facilities for Colorado Springs, Colorado. Black & Veatch, 1977. p.21-24.

Attachment 18: Eagle County District Court, Civil Action No. 1193, June 8, 1962. In the matter of the adjudication of water rights in Water District Number 37.

Attachment 19: vacant

Attachment 20: Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Appendix F. Affected Socioeconomic Environment.

Attachment 21: Resolution No. 71-81 of the City Council of Colorado Springs to proceed with permit applications for Homestake Phase II March 18, 1981; Resolution No. R81-31 of the City of Aurora to proceed with permit applications for Homestake Phase II March 30, 1981.

Attachment 22: City of Colorado Springs Zone Map, July 1984.

Attachment 23: Holy Cross Wilderness Area [map] showing Homestake I and Homestake II, anticipated.

Attachment 24: Water Resource Analysis, Homestake Phase II, Eagle County, Colorado, by Enartech Inc., February 27, 1984 [includes map dated Feb. 04, 1985]

Attachment 25: April 1, 1985, memo from R. F. Kuharich, Planning and Resource Development, Colorado Springs, to Tad Foster, City Attorney's Office, Colorado Springs, analyzing the Eagle County Master Plan as they relate to Homestake II. 14 p.

Attachment 26: Wetlands Study Map, HOMestake Project-Construction Phase II, byERO Resources Corp., February 1985.

Attachment 27: Effect of Homestake II Diversions on Concentrations of Salinity, Hardness, Nitrogen, and Phosphorus at Dotsero and Dowds Junction, by Tom Pitts and Associates, March 1, 1985.

Attachment 28: Impacts of Homestake II Diversions on Ammonia Effluent Limits in the Upper Eagle River Basin, by Tom Pitts and Associates, March 1, 1985.

Attachment 29: Water Quality Standards for Salinity, Colorado River System: Proposed Report on the 1984 Review [excerpts], by Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum, May 1984.

Attachment 30: May 22, 1980, memo from J. Willilam McDonald, Director, Colorado Water Conservation Board, and Marcia M. Hughes, to the Land Use Commission for the State of Colorado

Attachment 31: Debt Retirement Schedule

Part 2:

January 2, 1986: Letter from Harold E. Miskel, City of Colorado Springs, Department of Public Utilities, to Eagle County Board of Commissioners, responding to County Staff's recommendation concerning completeness of Homestake Phase II Application. 32 p.

March 3, 1986: Letter from Harold E. Miskel, City of Colorado Springs, Department of Public Utilities, to Eagle County Board of Commissioners, responding to their letter of February 7, 1986, regarding the completeness of the Homestake II Application.

Attachment 32: July 19, 1985 [received], memo from Susan Vaughn, Director of Community Development, to the Eagle County Board of Commissioners, reviewing the completeness of the Homestake II Water Project Permit Application. 13 p.

Attachment 33: October 30, 1985, memo from Joseph A. Zunich, Safety Services Administrator, Colorado Springs, to Tad S. Foster, Assistant City Attorney, Colorado Springs, projecting noise impacts of the Homestake Phase II construction at certain recreation areas. 9 p.

Attachment 33A: Abated/Unabated Noise, Homestake II Construction, Fancy Portal Area [map], by Black & Veatch, Engineers-Architects.

Attachment 33B: Abated/Unabated Noise, Homestake II Construction, West Cross Creek & Cross Creek Diversions [map], by Black & Veatch, Engineers-Architects.

Attachment 33C: Abated/Unabated Noise, Homestake II Construction, East Cross Creek & Fall Creek Diversions [map], by Black & Veatch, Engineers-Architects.

Attachment 34: November 5, 1985, memo from D. I. Henderson, Black & Veatch, to Tad S. Foster, Assistant City Attorney, Colorado Springs, providing construction transportation details and timelines. 5 p.

Attachment 35: Recreational Impact Analysis Homestake II Water Project, by The Research and Consulting Group, August 1985; Executive Summary, 5 p.; Analysis, 33 p. [includes map drawn by Kay K. Little]

Attachment 36: [Flora/fauna review, Homestake Project]. 1973 [1981 revision]. 70 p.

Attachment 37: August 22, 1985, responses from Erik Olgeirson, ERO Resources Corporation, to Tad Foster, Assistant City Attorney, Colorado Springs, with regard to environmental concerns in S. Vaughn's August 19, 1985, review of the Homestake II Application. 12 p.

Attachment 38: December 17, 1985, memo from Tom Pitts to Tad Foster, on the effects of Eagle Mine Treatment Plant closure on Eagle River water quality. 7 p.

Attachment 39: December 17, 1985, memo from Tom Pitts to Tad Foster, response to draft recommendations for the review of the completeness of the Homestake II Water Project Permit Application. 4 p.

Attachment 40A: Water Collection System-Phase II site map, Fancy Portal Area [map], by Black & Veatch, Engineers-Architects.

Attachment 40B: Water Collection System-Phase II site map, West Cross Creek & Cross Creek Diversions [map], by Black & Veatch, Engineers-Architects.

Attachment 40C: Water Collection System-Phase II site map, East Cross Creek & Fall Creek Diversions [map], by Black & Veatch, Engineers-Architects.

Attachment 41: Homestake Water Project Operating and Maintenance Plan, Appendix C Revegetation. Approved by the Homestake Steering Committee February 12, 1985; approved by the White River National Forest March 27, 1985. 3 p.

Attachment 42: March 15, 1982, Homestake Road Maintenance jurisdiction, Schedule A. 1 p.

Attachment 43: November 4, 1982, letter from Jeris A. Danielson, State Engineer, to Harold E. Miskel, Department of Public Utilities, Colorado Springs, stating that the four diversion dams for the project do not require filing plans and specifications under CRS 1973, 37-87-105, as amended.

Attachment 44: May 4, 1983, amendments to the 404 Permit application filed on November 9, 1982, for the Homestake Phase II Water Project; submitted by Harold E. Miskel to Tom Coe, Army Corps of Engineers. 10 p.

Attachment 45: December 20, 1985, memo from Philip C. Saletta, Water Division, Colorado Springs, to Tad S. Foster, Assistant City Attorney, Colorado Springs, reviewing the Ueblacker Associates, Inc. report entitled Feasibility Report on Characteristics and Uses of Tunnel Muck from the Homestake II Tunnel Projected, dated October 1985. 8 p.

Attachment 46: Upper Eagle Valley Sanitation District, Vail Water and Sanitation District, Red Cliff Sanitation District Vicinity and District Boundary Map [map]

Attachment 47: December 19, 1985, letter from R. Scott Fifer, ENARTECH Inc., to Tad Foster, Assistant City Attorney, Colorado Springs, addressing comments on public services, flooding, and ground water recharge made by Eagle County in reviewing the Homestake Phase II 1041 Application. 4 p.

Attachment 48: vacant

Attachment 49: vacant

Attachment 50A: Eagle County, Colorado [map]; prepared from U.S. Forest Service Ranger District maps, November 1971.

Attachment 50B: Zone District Map, Amendments [map], adopted by the Board of County Commissioners Sept. 16, 1974, effective Oct. 19, 1974.

Attachment 51: November 9, 1981, report submitted by Robt. James Irish, Woodward-Clyde Consultants, to James Patton, Black and Veatch, on geologic investigations and test drilling at four diversion sites, Homestake Extension Project.

Attachment 52: May 1983, cover page [showing tunnel cross section] for report, Homestake Phase II Tunnels, Eagle County, Colorado, by Ueblacker Associates, Inc., submitted to Black & Veatch. 1 p.

Attachment 53: cover sheet, topographic map [Eagle County] description.

Attachment 54: vacant

Attachment 55: October 28, 1985, memo from Tom Pitts to Tad Foster, Assistant City Attorney, Colorado Springs, analyzing the effects of proposed Homestake II diversions on salinity concentrations in the Eagle River. 5 p.

Attachment 56: July 19, 1982, comments from Eagle County to Richard Woodrow, Forest Supervisor, White River National Forest, regarding the draft Environmental

Impact Statement for the Homestake Water Diversion Project Phase II, and the Forest Service response to those comments. 2 p.

Attachment 57: November 5, 1985, letter from Michael D. Metcalf, Metcalf Archaeological Consultants, Inc., to Tad S. Foster, Assistant City Attorney, Colorado Springs, reporting investigation of nine archaeological sites and five isolated finds on land impacted by Homestake Phase II. 3 p.

Attachment 58: Homestake Phase II 1041 Application, Eagle County, Cumulative Effect Analysis, by ENARTECH, Inc., February 28, 1986.

Attachment 59: Homestake Project, Original Location and Construction Location; drawn on Mount of the Holy Cross, Colo., Quadrangle map, 15 minute series (topographical) 1970.

Attachment 60: September 27, 1984, District Court, Water Division No. 5, State of Colorado, Case No. 82CW120, concerning the application for water rights of the City of Aurora, Colorado and the City of Colorado Springs, Colorado, in the Eagle River or its tributaries.