

SOUTHWEST BASINS ROUNDTABLE

Michael Preston, Chair

c/o Dolores Water Conservancy District

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970-565-7562

September 19, 2018

CWCB Board

Brent Newman, Interstate, Federal & Water Information Section

Colorado Water Conservation Board

1580 Logan Street, Suite 600

Denver, Colorado 80203

VIA: Email

SUBJECT: Agenda Item 13. Colorado River Basin Drought Contingency Planning

Dear CWCB Board and Brent,

I am writing on behalf of the Southwest Basin Roundtable in support of the joint letter from the Southwestern Water Conservation District and the Colorado River District dated September 17, 2017 and the CWCB Resolution proposed in connection with the letter.

If “something more akin to mandatory curtailment” is going to be considered by CWCB and the Upper Colorado River Commission, it is critical that the Basin Roundtables be engaged. The Roundtables provide a vital link between policy considerations undertaken by CWCB and the full range of affected interests at the Basin level.

We urge you to work through the principles proposed in the joint Conservation District letter and the proposed resolution of September 17, 2018. The fulfillment of these principles must include adequate transparency and opportunity for inclusion by the Basin Roundtables and their affected constituencies.

We are aware of the informational sensitivities involved with the inter-state negotiations; and look forward to working with you on a level of transparency and information sharing that allows the Roundtables to do their jobs in vetting and evaluating any proposal for mandatory curtailment with potentially affected water users, without compromising inter-state negotiations.

Please contact at 970-565-7562, or mpreston@frontier.net, if you have questions or wish to discuss these concerns in more detail.

Sincerely,



Michael Preston

Southwest Basin Roundtable Chair