

# DENVER BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Date: May 22, 2013

Board Item: 3-B-2

## Drought Update and Recommendation

Action by Consent

Action

Information

Conditions in Denver Water's watersheds have improved considerably since the Board adopted the 2013 Drought Resolution on March 27, 2013. Snowpack has improved from about 60% of average year peak to about 90% of peak. In addition, cool weather in our service area has kept water use at winter levels, thus preserving storage in our reservoirs prior to runoff. Caution is still necessary, however, because the snowpack might not materialize as runoff into our reservoirs.

Given the improved conditions and continued low water use well into May, staff believes that application of drought pricing in water bills can be delayed by a month. By the end of June, we will know much more about actual runoff of the snowpack and inflow to our reservoirs, and will be able to determine more accurately whether mandatory restrictions and drought pricing will be needed for the remainder of the irrigation season.

### Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board amend the 2013 Drought Resolution dated March 27, 2013 by changing the date when drought pricing will apply from water use billed on or after June 1, 2013, to water use billed on or after July 1, 2013.

### Approvals:

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Patricia Wells  
General Counsel

*for*   
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James S. Lochhead  
CEO/Manager

 *for Dave Little*  
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David Little  
Director of Planning