

DENVER BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Date: August 14, 2013

Board Item: V-E-5

**WISE Partnership – Water Delivery Agreement
between Denver Water, City of Aurora, and South Metro WISE Authority**

Action by Consent

Action

Information

The WISE Partnership is a regional water supply project between Denver Water, the City of Aurora, and the South Metro WISE Authority, which is comprised of ten governmental water providers in Douglas and Arapahoe Counties. WISE uses excess capacity in Aurora’s Prairie Waters Project (PWP) and as-available reusable return flows from Denver Water and Aurora to create a new surface water supply for the Authority. Reusable return flows will be delivered from the South Platte through Aurora’s PWP system to its water purification plant. Treated water will then be delivered to a master meter for distribution by the Authority to its members. The WISE Partnership is an important step in developing sustainable water supplies for the South Metro area.

The Water Delivery Agreement will be permanent, but the physical supply itself will be variable and interruptible. Water deliveries of 5,000 acre-feet will be phased in from 2016 to 2020, to allow the Authority to construct necessary infrastructure. Beginning in 2020, the delivery obligation will be 72,250 acre-feet each ten-year period, or an average yearly delivery of 7,225 acre-feet. Deliveries may vary from 0 to 17,500 acre-feet in a given year. Denver Water and Aurora will each be responsible for providing half of the total delivery to the Authority. Denver Water may use WISE infrastructure to access its reusable return flows under the Denver Water-Aurora Operating Agreement, approved by the Board in July of 2012.

Aurora will operate the WISE project; Denver Water will contribute reusable return flows. Denver Water will be paid for its water at its Outside Combined Service Area nonpotable rate times 1.5 to account for the reusability of the supply, plus 12.5% for the West Slope Charge applicable under the Colorado River Cooperative Agreement. Authority members must also comply with the conservation, reuse and abstention provisions of the CRCA.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board approve the WISE Partnership Water Delivery Agreement.

Approvals:

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia Wells
General Counsel



James S. Lochhead
CEO/Manager



Dave Little
Director of Planning