

Southern Delivery System Update

The Pueblo County Board of Commissioners held a third hearing in Pueblo Monday night (12/29) on our 1041 land-use permit application for the Southern Delivery System.

Representatives from all the project partners -- Colorado Springs, Fountain, Security and Pueblo West -- were in attendance, including Mayor Rivera and Vice Mayor Small on behalf of City Council. Their attendance continues to send a positive message to the Commissioners regarding Colorado Springs' support of the project and commitment to continue working with them.

The 2 1/2 hour hearing provided Colorado Springs Utilities and its project partners an opportunity to respond to questions from the Pueblo County Board of Commissioners and public comments submitted to the Commissioners regarding the 1041 permit application, written and oral testimony submitted as part of the public process and the written rebuttal submitted by Springs Utilities on December 23.

Commissioners asked for clarification on a number of topics, including:

- Labor relations
- Revegetation plans
- Treatment of landowners
- Fountain Creek sedimentation
- Fountain Creek flood control
- Arkansas River flows through Pueblo
- Water quality monitoring
- Requirements to add project partners or move additional water through the pipeline.

As expected, we received thorough questioning from the Commissioners, consultants and staff. While some of the questioning was pointed, Pueblo County Commissioners and staff were professional and respectful.

Next steps: We plan to meet with Pueblo County staff Jan. 7 for a mitigation planning meeting. On Jan. 21, Pueblo County Commissioners will continue the public hearing in Pueblo. At that time, the Commissioners will accept further rebuttal on additional exhibits entered into the record and will distribute written terms and conditions, or mitigation, under consideration for an SDS permit. Another meeting will follow on Feb. 4 to hear public comments on proposed mitigation.

Southern Delivery System | eNews is an electronic newsletter designed to keep interested public officials and members of the public up to date on developments associated with the Southern Delivery System. Please forward it to anyone you think would be interested. Contact us at sdsinfo@csu.org to subscribe or unsubscribe.

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