



Southern Delivery System

Cost Effective. Dependable.
Environmentally Responsible.

Southern Delivery System

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SDS Components

- 53 miles of buried pipeline
- 1 water treatment plant
- 3 water pump stations
- 2 reservoirs

Communities Served:

- Colorado Springs
- Fountain
- Security
- Pueblo West

Construction Cost

- Phase 1
\$880 million (2009 dollars)

Construction Schedule

- **2010**
 - Begin Pueblo Dam connection
 - Dredge Fountain Creek
 - Build wetlands and realign creek
 - Begin finished-water pipeline construction
- **2011**
 - Begin Pueblo West pipeline construction
- **2012**
 - Begin remaining pipeline, pump stations, water treatment plant
- **2016**
 - Water delivery from SDS begins

SDS Construction in El Paso County

Project Background/Components

The Southern Delivery System (SDS) is a regional water supply project that will provide water to Colorado Springs, Fountain, Security and Pueblo West. SDS will transport raw water from Pueblo Reservoir and pump it north through a 53-mile buried pipeline. About 33 miles of the raw-water pipeline will be constructed within unincorporated El Paso County. In addition to the raw-water pipeline, Phase I of SDS construction in El Paso County will also include construction of a water treatment plant located northeast of the Colorado Springs airport, and two pumping stations – Williams Creek and Bradley pumping stations. From the water treatment plant, approximately nine miles of buried treated-water pipeline will be constructed and connected to distribution systems that will transport water to customers.

Phase I construction is scheduled from 2010 to 2016.

- In 2010 in El Paso County, we will:
 - Improve water quality in Fountain Creek by building wetlands and realigning the creek, most likely at Clear Spring Ranch.
 - Begin construction on the treated-water pipeline along Marksheffel Road in Colorado Springs.
- Beginning in 2012: Construct remaining pipelines, the pumping stations and water treatment plant.
- Startup would begin in late 2015 with delivery of water from SDS beginning in spring 2016.

Phase II of SDS construction in El Paso County will include a terminal storage reservoir at Upper Williams Creek just off of east Bradley Road and an exchange reservoir, including return flow diversion and conveyance, at Lower Williams Creek. Phase II construction is currently scheduled for the 2020 to 2025 timeframe.

Construction of Lower Williams Creek Reservoir will include improvements to and expansion of the Chilcotte Ditch, which currently is used to divert water from Fountain Creek and convey it to mostly agricultural users near Security and Fountain. The improvement and expansion of the Chilcotte Ditch will provide needed capacity for both agricultural use and SDS project use.

Once constructed, the Lower Williams Creek Reservoir (the exchange reservoir) will allow Colorado Springs to divert SDS return flows from Fountain Creek through the Chilcotte Ditch into temporary storage in the Reservoir. Colorado Springs will then be able to better control the timing and amount of water it releases back into Fountain Creek while increasing the efficiency of water rights exchanges for other water users in the Lower Arkansas Valley.

Public Process

Colorado Springs Utilities has submitted to El Paso County a series of five applications for Approval of Location Permits required for the SDS construction activities in the County. The applications include various components of the project to be built in the County including the raw water pipeline, finished water pipeline, Bradley Pump Station, Exchange Facilities and Upper Williams Creek Reservoir. As part of this process, impacted landowners and those with property adjacent to the project received notification letters. SDS project participants have scheduled two public information sessions for El Paso County residents in November. The El Paso County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing and provide opportunity for public comment, mostly likely in early 2010.

SDS Benefits to El Paso County

There are some key ways SDS will benefit El Paso County both during and after construction is completed:

- There will be millions of dollars in construction work, which will result in jobs and purchases of local goods and services, such as gas, supplies, hotel rooms and visits to local restaurants. El Paso County contractors will be able to compete for these contracts.
- Two new reservoirs will be constructed as part of Phase II of the project that will provide recreation opportunities close to Colorado Springs and Fountain. Upper Williams Creek Reservoir will be slightly smaller than Denver's Cherry Creek Reservoir. Recreation that will be considered include boating, fishing, trails and picnic areas. Lower Williams Creek Reservoir will provide habitat for wildlife and opportunities for wildlife watching.
- Local roads impacted during construction will be restored to pre-construction conditions or better.
- El Paso County water providers will have the opportunity to partner on the pipeline. The ability to tie into the SDS pipeline rather than building new facilities could result in significant cost savings to these water providers and along the areas where the pipeline and facilities will be constructed.

Our Commitments to El Paso County:

SDS can be mutually beneficial for all of us. Here are our commitments to the citizens of El Paso County:

Commitment #1: El Paso County won't have to help pay for SDS. SDS will reimburse the County for any costs related to reviewing SDS permit applications.

Commitment #2: We'll restore any land we disturb. We'll mitigate or address impacts we have on private or public land or the environment. We'll mitigate impacts to affected roads, other infrastructure, river banks and parks. And, in some cases, we'll improve the current conditions.

Commitment #3: Landowners will be fairly compensated. We've met with many landowners to open a dialogue and make sure they're informed of our plans. We will make sure all landowners are informed before and during construction on their property. Any owner whose land is impacted by construction will be fairly compensated.

Commitment #4: Fountain Creek will be protected. Mitigation is required by a number of agencies to ensure SDS prevents and/or addresses environmental issues it may cause on Fountain Creek. We plan to build new wetlands, realign the creek in places and conduct dredging to control sediment and flooding. We will also provide \$50 million in funding to support project of the newly formed Fountain Creek Watershed, Flood Control and Greenway District once the project is complete. We have also committed \$75 million for improvements to Colorado Springs' wastewater system.

