



News Release

June 11, 2008

CONTACT: 668-3848

Comments Due Friday on Draft Environmental Impact Statement For Southern Delivery System

Friday is the deadline for submitting comments to the Bureau of Reclamation on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Southern Delivery System (SDS).

“We encourage anyone who hasn’t already done so to submit comments supporting SDS,” said John Fredell, SDS Project Director for Colorado Springs Utilities. “The future of our city depends on SDS. We can’t maintain our quality of life or a healthy economy without it.”

For comments to be considered, the Bureau of Reclamation must receive them by Friday. They can be submitted by email at klamb@gp.usbr.gov or by fax at 970-663-3212.

“There’s been considerable media and public attention to SDS during the public comment period on the Draft EIS,” Fredell noted. “Diverse viewpoints and perspectives have been expressed, and we value the input.”

The Bureau of Reclamation examined in detail all reasonable alternatives to SDS and Colorado Springs Utilities believes the alternatives examined in the Draft EIS were well conceived and thoroughly evaluated.

The Bureau of Reclamation provided a hard look in the Draft EIS on topics including, but not limited to, wildlife, aquatic habitat, water quality and quantity, socioeconomics, land use and environmental and wetland-associated impacts. This extensive study was conducted over a four and one-half year period. Its cost, through April, totals approximately \$14 million.

“The Draft EIS effort was thorough and robust,” Fredell said. “Substantive comments submitted by the public will only make it better.”

For more information, visit www.sdseis.com.