



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Omaha District

PUBLIC NOTICE

Corps ID No: **NWO-2007-1337-DEN**
Project: **Regional Watershed Supply Project**
Applicant: **Million Conservation Resource Group**
Issue Date: **July 22, 2011**
Subject: **Permit Application Withdrawal**
Additional Info: <http://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/html/od-tl/eis/RWSP-EIS.html>

PUBLIC NOTICE
Section 404 of the Clean Water Act - Permit Review
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS)
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS REGULATORY BRANCH

Regional Watershed Supply Project Proposed by Million Conservation Resource Group
Announcement of Permit Application Withdrawal and Termination of EIS

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District, Regulatory Branch (Corps) is notifying interested parties that it has withdrawn the Section 404 Clean Water Act permit application for the proposed 'Regional Watershed Supply Project' submitted in 2008 by a private water development entity known as Million Conservation Resource Group (MCRG), and has terminated the process to develop a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS).

The Corps' regulations at 33 CFR 325.1(d) require that a permit application, in order to be considered complete, must contain the purpose and need for the proposed activity. The original permit application submitted for the RWSP stated that the purpose of the project was water supply for southeastern Wyoming and the Front Range of Colorado. This project purpose was utilized for all EIS related work, to include public and agency scoping. The primary purpose of the project may now change to electrical power generation, an activity appropriately under the purview of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Since the purpose of the project is now fluid and the need for a Section 404 Clean Water Act permit is uncertain, the Corps now considers the permit application incomplete.

Therefore, the Corps is now withdrawing the permit application and terminating the EIS process for the RWSP. Withdrawal of the permit application and termination of the EIS process will not prevent the MCRG from re-applying at a later date, and will not affect other ongoing Corps water supply studies along the Colorado Front Range.

The Corps' neutral role in this EIS process was to evaluate the environmental consequences of proposed projects such as these under authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The preparation of the EIS was being conducted by a third-party contractor directed by the Corps, with the contractor funded directly by the permit applicant. Costs incurred by the Corps were funded through Congress' annual appropriation of routine operating funds provided to the Corps for administration of the Regulatory Program. No supplemental appropriation of funds for management of this project occurred.

Questions regarding this matter can be addressed to:

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More information on the proposed RWSP can be found at -
<http://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/html/od-tl/eis/RWSP-EIS.html>