

RESOLUTION  
of  
UPPER COLORADO RIVER COMMISSION

Re: Construction of Animas-La Plata Participating Project

WHEREAS, the Animas-La Plata Project is a participating project of the Colorado River Storage Project; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the Interior was directed "to proceed as nearly as practicable with the construction of the Animas-La Plata [Project] . . . concurrently with the construction of the Central Arizona Project to the end that such project shall be completed not later than the date of the first delivery of water from said Central Arizona Project . . . ."; and

WHEREAS, the first delivery of water to the Central Arizona Project has already been made but construction has not yet started on the Animas-La Plata Project; and

WHEREAS, in 1985 the United States Congress appropriated \$1 million for a construction start on the Animas-La Plata Project contingent upon non-federal interests entering into a reasonable up-front financing/cost-sharing agreement with the Secretary of the Interior by June 30, 1986; and

WHEREAS, the United States Departments of the Interior and of Justice subsequently required that an up-front financing/cost-sharing arrangement for the project be taken up as a part of the settlement negotiations which the State of Colorado had initiated with the Ute Mountain Ute and Southern Ute Indian Tribes concerning the tribes' reserved water rights claims in Colorado; and

WHEREAS, an "Agreement in Principle on the Settlement of Colorado Ute Tribes Reserved Water Rights" was entered into on March 14, 1986, by the State of Colorado, the two tribes, and five Colorado water conservancy and conservation districts, which Agreement includes a non-federal up-front financing/cost-sharing proposal; and

WHEREAS, the said proposal is responsive in all regards to the parameters for non-federal financing and cost-sharing set forth in President Reagan's January 24, 1984, letter to Senator Paul Laxalt and meets or exceeds the percentage contributions required of non-federal interests for other federal water resources projects and Indian reserved water rights settlements:


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Upper Colorado River Commission that it strongly urges the Secretary of the Interior to approve the said proposal and enter into the required contract by June 30, 1986;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commission directs its Secretary to forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Secretary of the Interior, the congressional delegations of the Upper Division States, and such other Federal and State officials as he deems appropriate.

CERTIFICATE

I, GERALD R. ZIMMERMAN, Executive Director and Secretary of the Upper Colorado River Commission, do hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Upper Colorado River Commission at an Adjourned Regular Meeting held in Salt Lake City, Utah on April 2, 1986.

WITNESS my hand this 3rd day of April, 1986.

  
GERALD R. ZIMMERMAN  
Executive Director and Secretary