

**NORTHERN COLORADO WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT**

**RESOLUTION**

**D-1165-02-10**

**OPPOSITION TO**

**2010 BALLOT INITIATIVE NOS. 10, 12 AND 21**

WHEREAS, the Colorado-Big Thompson (C-BT) Project was constructed and is operated to provide an essential supplemental water supply to the citizens of the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District (Northern Water); and

WHEREAS, the supplemental water supply provided by the C-BT Project enables agricultural, municipal and other water users to obtain an adequate water supply in times of water shortage, which enhances the economic well-being of Northern Colorado; and

WHEREAS, Northern Water, in conjunction with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, operates and maintains the C-BT Project, and provides water resource planning and development services to the citizens of Northern Colorado; and

WHEREAS, in 1937 the voters authorized Northern Water to collect a one mill property tax to raise revenue to repay a portion of the construction costs of the C-BT Project and to pay the local portion of the operation and maintenance costs of the C-BT Project; and

WHEREAS, Northern Water collects a one mill property tax, specific ownership taxes and water allotment contract assessments to fund its operations for the benefit of the citizens of Northern Colorado; and

WHEREAS, without such revenues Northern Water would be unable to fulfill its contractual obligation to the United States to pay a portion of the operation and maintenance costs of the C-BT Project, and provide water resource planning and development services to the citizens of Northern Colorado; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Colorado statute, the members of the Board of Directors of Northern Water are appointed by state district court judges to represent the interests of Colorado citizens within the eight counties which make up Northern Water; and

WHEREAS, 2010 Ballot Initiative No. 10, if adopted, would eliminate specific ownership taxes on vehicles, thus reducing Northern Water's revenues; and

WHEREAS, 2010 Ballot Initiative No. 12, if adopted, would prohibit Northern Water from levying a mandatory fee or tax on property, which would so reduce Northern Water's revenues that it could not fulfill its obligation to pay a portion of the operation and maintenance costs of the C-BT Project, which could result in a catastrophic loss of essential water supplies for the citizens of Northern Colorado; and

WHEREAS, 2010 Ballot Initiative No. 21, if adopted, would prohibit the State of Colorado from borrowing money for any purpose, and would severely restrict the ability of Northern Water and its water activity enterprises to borrow money when appropriate for large capital projects such as dams and water pipelines; and

WHEREAS, in combination 2010 Ballot Initiative Nos. 10, 12 and 21, if adopted, would cripple the ability of the State of Colorado, Northern Water, and local governments to provide essential services to the citizens of Colorado.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTHERN COLORADO WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT, as follows:

1. Northern Water opposes the adoption of 2010 Ballot Initiative Nos. 10, 12 and 21 because, if adopted, they would have severe negative effects on the citizens of the State of Colorado.
2. Northern Water staff are authorized and directed to distribute and publish this resolution to the extent permitted by applicable law.

CERTIFICATE

I, Eric W. Wilkinson, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a Resolution unanimously adopted by the Board of Directors of Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District at a regular meeting of said Board held in Berthoud, Colorado, on February 12, 2010.

  
Secretary