## RICHMARK

Dear City Council and Mayor Gates,

Richmark Holdings, Inc. supports the Terry Ranch acquisition. Raw water demand will continue to increase as Greeley grows and the Terry Ranch project will allow Greeley to continue its water investment legacy. Richmark encourages City Council to ensure Greeley's ability to provide water for its projected growth by supporting the Terry Ranch project.

Below is a list of reasons for support provided to Council by Harold Evans. Richmark seconds his views.

Sincerely,

Richmark Holdings, Inc.

Arlo Richardson President

Tyler Richardson

Vice President and Secretary

Amy Boyd

Vice President and Assistant Secretary

Collin Richardson

Vice President

Logan Richardson

Vice President

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- 1. First it is a continuation of the 150 year legacy of **Greeley investing in its water future.** This legacy starts with the construction of the Number 3 ditch in 1870. Some of the other key legacy investments have included:
  - a. The Bellvue project of water rights, treatment plant construction, and pipeline to Greeley completed in 1907.
  - b. The origins of the Colorado Big Thompson project in Greeley in 1933 and Greeley's commitment to 15,000 CBT units in 1938.
  - The 1961 agreement with the Greeley Loveland Irrigation Company that resulted in Greeley's Boyd Lake system.
  - d. The Windy Gap project in the 1980's
  - e. The 2003 Water Master Plan with its associated activities and projects.
- 2. Terry Ranch provides **Drought Year Water Storage** in an underground aquifer storage bucket. It does so in a more certain, less environmental damaging, and more cost effective way than a large surface reservoir would. It also comes as a storage bucket that already contains 1,200,000 acre-feet of decreed wholly consumable water.
- 3. Terry Ranch provides redundancy and diversity to Greeley's exiting water resources and is complementary to our existing base water supply and infrastructure.
- 4. The project has been the subject of **extensive and comprehensive due diligence** and no fatal flaws have been found. This due diligence is by far the most extensive I have seen in my 24 years on the Board.
- 5. The findings of our outside engineers and consultants have been **peer reviewed** by independent third party experts. The peer reviews have validated the findings and recommendations of our engineers and consultants.
- 6. Implementing Terry Ranch, as drought supply storage, will result in future water rate increases being less than they would have been with a surface storage reservoir.
- 7. Our professional staff: **financial, operations, engineering, and water resources**, have all recommend moving forward with the Terry Ranch project.
- 8. We have support in the community from diverse groups including, but not limited to, the Greeley Chamber of Commerce, the NOCO Home Builders Association, the Poudre Learning Center, and the Greeley Tribune Editorial Board.
- 9. The unique and thoroughly vetted purchase structure reduces risk, secures third party financing, and minimizes the cost to our citizens.

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10. To close my remarks I would like to comment on the bigger picture view. We are part of a region that has a growing population along with increasing water demands. We are also located in an area that has a finite water supply with increasing competition for this finite supply. There is also the likely potential for future water supply challenges due to the impact of climate variability. All of these macro trends will impact Greeley's water future. The Terry Ranch acquisition will help Greeley meet and deal with these trends.