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Chairman:
Agriculture, Livestock, &
Natural Resources Committee
Member:
Capital Development Committee
Transportation & Energy
Committee

COLORADO
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL
DENVER
80203

May 21, 2014

Dear Members of the Water Resources Review Committee:

During the 2014 interim, the Colorado General Assembly has charged the Water Resources Review Committee with reviewing two important water policy issues: best practices to limit municipal outdoor water consumption and statewide planning for water resources. Following is a brief summary of the 2014 laws that identify the issues to be considered by the committee and my objectives for meeting these requirements.

Senate Bill 14-017 hearings. Senate Bill 14-017 directs the Water Resources Review Committee to study during the 2014 interim best practices to limit municipal outdoor water consumption. The law allows the committee to propose legislation to facilitate the implementation of best practices that are both reasonable and likely to result in the measurable conservation of municipal water used for outdoor purposes. The committee will meet on **Wednesday, August 6**, starting at 9:00 a.m. to discuss municipal outdoor water consumption. As part of this hearing, I have requested the Colorado Water Institute to facilitate a discussion with local governments, urban water providers, residential developers, landscapers, and other interested persons to discuss current water conservation programs and consider possible legislation to ensure that projected increases in municipal outdoor water consumption do not come at the expense of Colorado's agricultural community.

Senate Bill 14-115 hearings. Pursuant to Senate Bill 14-115, the Water Resources Review Committee is required to review statewide planning for water resources. By August 1, 2014, this law requires the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) to submit to the committee the scope, fundamental approach, and basic elements of a draft state water plan. The law also requires the committee to hold at least one public hearing in each geographic region associated with basin roundtables to collect feedback from the public concerning the plan. The committee must provide a summary of the public's feedback as well as its own feedback to the CWCB by November 1, 2014. The committee may recommend the introduction of legislation based on the results of the review. Any bill recommended by the WRRRC or hearing held regarding the state water plan does not count against the committee bill or meeting limit.

I have scheduled the following Senate Bill 14-115 hearings:

- Wednesday, June 18, starting at 10 a.m., at Western State College in Gunnison;
- Thursday, August 21, starting at 5:00 p.m., in Glenwood Springs, location to be determined and
- Wednesday, October 1, starting at 10 a.m., at Metropolitan State University of Denver.

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Additional Senate Bill 14-115 hearings will be scheduled after October 1, 2014. I will try to schedule these meetings at a time when most members may attend and to cover several basins in one two-day period to minimize the time commitment required of committee members.

I look forward to working with you during the 2014 interim. Please contact me if you have any questions about the committee's schedule or agendas, or if you would like to make any suggestions concerning the committee's 2014 interim activities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randy Fischer". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned centrally below the word "Sincerely,".

Representative Randy Fischer
Chair, Water Resources Review Committee