

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VIII

1860 LINCOLN STREET

DENVER COLORADO 80203

Ref: 8W-OG

APR 0.5 1978

Mr. James Patterson Director, Public Works Post Office Box 968 Grand Junction, Colorado 81501

Dear Mr. Patterson:

As discussed during our meeting in Grand Junction on February 21, 1978, we have reviewed the grant offer dated November 8, 1976, and agree that the letter dated January 30, 1978, from Mr. Evan Dildine, Technical Secretary of the Colorado Water Quality Control Commission, which conveyed approval of the facility plan, satisfies Special Condition No. 3 of the grant offer.

Therefore, we concur in your proceeding with preliminary plant equipment layouts and necessary site work, including land surveys and subsurface explorations. Please be advised that Phase II design work should not proceed beyond 15 percent until review is completed by the Colorado Water Quality Control Division. We are also proceeding under the assumption that the City of Grand Junction is agreeable to actively pursuing effluent land application through water exchange agreements or other measures to maximize benefits to be derived from the use of treated wastewater.

We have received and have under review your request for a grant increase to complete the Phase II work. We note that contrary to Special Condition No. 2, the engineering subagreement has been executed by both parties. EPA retains the right to perform a cost analysis of the cost data submitted and require adjustment to the subagreement costs if required.

The Colorado Water Quality Commission has approved a grant increase to cover the costs covered by the above-mentioned subagreement, which will be processed after the subagreement review is completed.

We are proceeding with an an amendment to the Negative Declaration to reflect changes in the approved facility plan. We are also nearing the point of consummating our agreement with a contractor to undertake a survey of the Colorado River at Grand Junction. This survey and study will take up to one year, but we plan to have an interim report available

by mid-summer which will define the necessity for ammonia control or the limits of ammonia that can safely be discharged from the proposed sewage treatment plant and still protect the endangered aquatic species. We understand that the City is agreeable to incorporating dechlorination facilities in any case, and will also abide by the findings of this study should it be indicated that ammonia control is neesssary.

Sincerely yours,

William H. Hormberg, P.E.

Director Office of Grants Water Division