



WINDY GAP FIRING PROJECT INFORMATION

The Windy Gap Project pumps water from the Colorado River into Lake Granby. This Project has 480 “units,” and the City and County of Broomfield owns 56 of those units. Broomfield is a participant in the Windy Gap Firming Project (WGFP) to make its 56 Windy Gap units more reliable from year to year. Currently, the annual yield of the Windy Gap units ranges from a maximum of 5,600 acre feet to a minimum of zero acre feet. Increasing the reliability of this Windy Gap component of Broomfield’s water supply is critical to meeting the projected water demands. The purpose of the WGFP is to make the Windy Gap Project water more reliable under extreme conditions, such as drought.

The table below provides information about the topics that have been raised by the Colorado Citizens Campaign (CCC).

TOPIC	INFORMATION
1. What alternatives to the WGFP are the CCC promoting?	The WGFP itself has investigated a variety of options for improving the reliability of the Windy Gap units including new reservoir sites, enlargement or re-regulation of existing reservoirs, developing ground water, and other non-structural measures.
2. Is the WGFP a “done deal”?	The WGFP is currently in the federal permitting phase. A draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is expected to be published in early 2007. Ultimately, a favorable “Record of Decision” is expected from the Bureau of Reclamation, the federal lead agency for the WGFP.
3. Are four sites still being considered?	Of the numerous options considered, the Bureau of Reclamation has chosen four alternatives for more detailed analysis in the EIS. The WGFP participants have selected one of these four alternatives as their preferred reservoir site which is the Chimney Hollow Reservoir.
4. What other communities are involved with the WGFP?	There are currently fourteen participants in the WGFP. They are the City and County of Broomfield, the Towns of Erie, Evans, Ft. Lupton, and Superior, the Cities of Greeley, Lafayette, Longmont, Louisville and Loveland, Central Weld County Water District, Little Thompson Water District, Middle Park Water District, and the Platte River Power Authority.
5. What is Broomfield’s response to the claims by the CCC that “conservation, recycling and other unnamed efficiencies alone can be employed to meet demands for several decades?”	<p><u>Conservation.</u> Broomfield has incorporated numerous water conservation measures that to reduce water use on a permanent basis. These measures include public education, system-wide water audits and meter replacements, pipeline leak detection, and residential landscape requirements.</p> <p><u>Recycling.</u> Broomfield has an extensive water reuse system in place and is planning to expand that system. Reuse water is used for irrigation purposes only.</p> <p><u>Broomfield Position.</u> Broomfield strongly believes that conservation, recycling, and other methods of reducing water demand are important. Additionally, we recognize that these measures must be combined with reservoir storage options that assure the “conserved” water is stored for later use during times of shortage.</p>

The Bureau of Reclamation is currently preparing another update to the Windy Gap Firming Project which will be posted on the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District’s website at www.ncwcd.org.