

RESOLUTION NO. 014-2021

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF CRESTONE OPPOSING EXPORTATION OF WATER FROM THE RIO GRANDE BASIN

WHEREAS, the economic and cultural wellbeing of the citizens of the Town of Crestone is tied to and dependent on the strength of the agricultural community that gives the Town of Crestone vitality; and

WHEREAS, the conservation, protection, and use of the water resources of the Rio Grande Basin are vital to the continued prosperity of both the agricultural sector and the entire population of the Town of Crestone and the San Luis Valley; and

WHEREAS, the exportation of water from the Rio Grande Basin to other basins is a direct threat to the prosperity of the Town of Crestone and all of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the exportation of water from the Rio Grande Basin and the aquifers thereof impacts the sustainability of the water supply, including the sustainability of the confined aquifer from which the Town of Crestone derives its water supply; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has been made aware of a scheme for the exportation of water out of the Rio Grande Basin, similar to past attempts to export water from the Rio Grande Basin, being promoted by an entity calling itself Renewable Water Resources, LLC, and claiming that the water exportation scheme was “created by the people of the San Luis Valley,” and that it “benefits everyone”; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees does not believe either of those statements to be true, and, as noted above, believes the scheme to export water from the Rio Grande Basin will harm the economic and cultural prosperity of the citizens of the Town of Crestone and of the San Luis Valley;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF CRESTONE:

Section 1: The Board of Trustees of the Town of Crestone, Colorado opposes any attempt to export water from the Rio Grande Basin to another basin.

Section 2: The Board of Trustees directs staff to monitor any schemes to export water out of the Rio Grande Basin, in particular the Renewable Water Resources, LLC scheme referenced above, and identify appropriate junctures to oppose such export schemes, including, but not limited to, the filing of statements of opposition in water court, and coordination with other entities opposing such export schemes, such as the Rio Grande Water Conservation District.

Section 3: This resolution to be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

DONE and SIGNED this 13th day of December, 2021.



Allyson Ransom

Allyson Ransom, Town Clerk

Kairina Danforth

Kairina Danforth, Mayor