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December 22, 2017

Marcy Lyn Hudson 18015 Woodhaven Drive Colorado Springs, CO 80908

RE: recorded certified copy of decree

Dear Marcy:

I am enclosing a certified copy of your water rights decree, which has been recorded in the El Paso County real property records.

Unless something goes wrong, this transmission, along with the Change of Ownership Form and the Well Permit Application, should finish up the work that you engaged me to do. I don't have any reason to think that something will go wrong at this late date, but sometimes it occurs. If it does, we will fix it.

As I indicated in my e-mail on December 22, when I do my bills in January, I will take any remaining expenses and fees out of the retainer you paid, and will refund any balance.

In preparation for retirement, effective January 1, 2018, I will be working out of my home at 3209 Springridge Drive, 80906, while I finish up a few cases. I hope that the same phone number and email address will work.

Sincerely yours,

Henry D. Worley

Enclosure

Certified to be a full, true and correct copy of the original in my custody.

Rachael L. Erlokson
Clerk of the District Court
Meld County Colorada

Dated .

DEC 1 2 2017

DISTRICT COURT, WATER DIVISION 1 WELD COUNTY, COLORADO

Weld County Courthouse

901 9th Avenue, P.O. Box 2038

Greeley, CO 80632

Concerning the Application for Water Rights of:

GREGORY JOSEPH HUDSON, SHERI LYNNE HUDSON, JONATHAN RONALD HUDSON, and MARCY LYN HUDSON

In El Paso County

COURT USE ONLY

DATE FILED: December 7, 2017 9:42 AM

Consolidated Case Nos. 16CW3180 (WD1) and 16CW3090 (WD2)

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, JUDGMENT AND DECREE

The Court, having reviewed the application, the March 31, 2017, Summary of Consultation by the Division Engineer for Water Division 1, the Applicants' response hereto dated July 6, 2017, and the pleadings in this case, hereby enters the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Judgment and Decree:

FINDINGS OF FACT

I. Jurisdictional Facts.

- 1. The applicants for adjudication of Denver Basin ground water and approval of a plan for augmentation in this case are Gregory Joseph Hudson and Sheri Lynne Hudson, 20310 Black Forest Road, Colorado Springs, CO 80908, and Jonathan Ronald Hudson and Marcy Lyn Hudson, 18015 Woodhaven Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80908; Attn: Marcy Hudson, phone: (951) 236-2765, email: mlhudson4@hotmail.com; ("Applicants").
- 2. The application in this case was filed on December 20, 2016 in Water Division 1, Case No. 16CW3180 and Water Division 2, Case No. 16CW3090. The application was published in the resumes for Water Divisions 1 and 2 and in a newspaper of general circulation in El Paso County, as ordered by the Court. Proof of publication has been filed.
- 3. The application in Water Division 2, Case No. 16CW3090, was consolidated with Case No. 16CW3090 before Judge Hartmann in Water Division 1 by order of the Colorado Supreme Court, dated April 3, 2017. Upon Applicants' unopposed motion, the application was again referred to the water referee on April 5, 2017.
- 4. Timely statements of opposition were filed in Water Division 2 by the City of Colorado Springs acting by and through its enterprise, Colorado Springs Utilities, and by Cherokee Metropolitan District. Those statements of opposition apply to the consolidated cases. Both of those parties have stipulated to entry of a decree in this case, and this decree is consistent with

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their stipulations. The deadline for filing statements of opposition has expired, and no motions to intervene have been filed.

- 5. The Court has reviewed and considered the Consultation Report of the Division Engineer for Water Division 1, which filed on March 31, 2017, and Applicants' response thereto which was filed with the Court on July 6, 2017.
- 6. The land and water involved herein are not within the boundaries of a designated ground water basin.

II. Description of Denver Basin Ground Water Rights to be Adjudicated.

- Applicants' property, beneath which they seek to adjudicate the water in the Denver Basin aquifers, consists of a 38.02 acre tract of land at 20310 Black Forest Road, Colorado Springs, CO 80908 described as follows: "A tract of land in the W1/2 W1/2 of Section 5, T. 11 S., R. 65 W., 6th P.M. described as follows: beginning at the west 1/4 corner of said Section 5, thence north 0001'14" east on the west section line 828.42 feet, north 8927'07" east 1314.60 feet to the east line of said W1/2 W1/2, south 0001'12" west on said east line 1259.45 feet, south 8928'22" west 1314.60 feet to said west section line, north 0001'14" east on said west section line 430.54 feet to point of beginning" (the "Property"). A map showing the Property's location is attached as Figure 1.
- 8. There is one lien or encumbrance against the Property. Applicants complied with the notice provisions of C.R.S. §37-92-302(2)(b).
- 9. Pursuant to the Determinations of Fact issued by the State Engineer on February 2, 2017, the amounts of water available for appropriation are as shown on Table 1 on the following page:

Table I

Aquifer	Acreage	Specific Yield	Sat Thick- ness (ft)	AF/acre 1	Total Amt (AF)	Annual Amt (AF) ²
Dawson	38.02	.20	460	92.0	3,498	35.0 ³
Denver	38.02	.17	425	72.3	2,747	27.5
Arapahoe	38.02	.17	270	45.9	1,745	17.5
L-Fox Hills	38.02	.15	200	30.0	1,141	11.4

- 1 This is the total amount per surface acre, not the amount which may be withdrawn annually.
- 2. This amount is based on annual withdrawals of one percent of the total amount appropriated, as provided in C.R.S. § 37-90-137(4)(b). The plan for augmentation decreed herein provides that some of the water in the Dawson aquifer must be withdrawn at a lower rate than would otherwise be required by state law.
- 3. This amount is contingent upon Applicants obtaining a new well permit for the well currently permitted as Permit No. 185701, which new permit must be consistent with the provisions of the plan for augmentation decreed herein. If than is not done, the total amount available for appropriation will be reduced by 400 acre-feet, and to 31.0 annual acre-feet
- 10. The estimated depths and tributary status of the four aquifers located beneath the Property are shown on Table II:

Table II

Aquifer	Depth below surface (ft)	not nontributary	
Dawson	near surface to 1,000		
Denver	1,055 - 1,900	nontributary	
Arapahoe	1,940 - 2,455	nontributary	
Laramie-Fox Hills	2,840 - 3,095	nontributary	

11. Applicants will withdraw water from the Dawson aquifer from as many as six wells, including an exempt Dawson aquifer well currently permitted as permit no. 185701. Subject to the limitations in this decree, Applicants may also withdraw water from one well in each of the Denver, Arapahoe, and Laramie-Fox Hills aquifers, plus any additional wells required in order for Applicant to withdraw the full decreed amounts. Such wells may be constructed at any location on the Property, provided, that no wells may be located within 100 feet of the Property

boundary. The well currently permitted under permit no. 185701 is the only well on the Property at the time of entry of this decree.

12. Subject to the terms, conditions and limitations of this decree, and the issuance by the State Engineer of a well permit that authorizes the specific use or uses, the water rights adjudicated herein decreed for all beneficial uses except municipal uses.

III. Description of Plan for Augmentation.

- 13. Overview of plan for augmentation. Applicants intend to subdivide the property into no more than six residential lots. Each lot will be entitled to drill one well into the Dawson aquifer. The plan for augmentation is designed to last for 300 years. Septic system return flows will be used to replace depletions which occur during the pumping period, and nontributary Denver aquifer water is hereby reserved in an amount sufficient to replace all post-pumping depletions. Uses of water on such lots are expected to be, but shall not be limited to, some or all of the following uses: for indoor uses for drinking and sanitary purposes in the principal houses and in stand-alone home offices or guest cottages, for livestock watering, for landscape and garden irrigation, hot tubs, swimming pools, and decorative uses such as decorative ponds and fountains, and augmentation through septic system return flows. Total annual pumping from each Dawson aquifer well is limited to 0.815 acre feet (265,569 gallons), regardless of the number of lots ultimately approved, but which shall not exceed six lots and 4.89 acre feet annually. Applicants for well permits will indicate the uses to which they intend to put the water on their well permit applications.
- 14. Return flows from indoor residential use. The State Engineer has issued an informal guideline estimating that conservatively, water use in single family dwellings will equal at least 0.2 acre feet of water annually for indoor uses, and that return flows from nonevaporative septic systems will equal at least 0.18 acre feet annually. Thus, it is assumed that each well constructed pursuant to this plan for augmentation will be used in at least one single family dwelling, and will cause septic system return flows of at least 0.18 acre feet annually, or at least 1.08 acre feet annually if six wells are constructed. Though there may be return flows from landscape and/or garden irrigation, Applicants do not and will not rely on such return flows to replace depletions during the pumping period, or in any other plan for augmentation.
- Replacement of depletions during pumping. Applicants shall replace all depletions caused during the pumping of the Dawson aquifer water as authorized herein. The State Engineer's computer model "DA02" indicates that during pumping, combined depletions to the Arkansas and South Platte River system will gradually increase to a maximum of approximately 22.08 percent of pumping in the 300 year. Thus, a well pumping 0.815 acre feet annually will cause 0.18 acre feet of depletions in the 300th year. Applicants will replace those depletions with septic system return flows, which will also equal 0.18 acre feet per lot, or 1.08 acre feet annually for six lots, based on assumed average annual indoor use of at least 0.2 acre feet per dwelling. If the Property is subdivided into fewer than six lots, with one well per lot, return flows from septic systems will still always equal or exceed stream depletions during the 300 year pumping period. Thus, Applicants may subdivide the Property into fewer than six lots, with one

Dawson aquifer well per lot, provided that Applicants comply with all other provisions of this decree.

16. Provision of sufficient return flows during the pumping period. Nonevaporative septic systems shall be used for treatment of water used for indoor drinking and sanitary uses on all lots. All septic system return flows are dedicated to this plan for augmentation, and shall not be sold, leased or otherwise used for any other purpose. Septic system return flows are necessary to provide an adequate source of water to replace stream depletions during the pumping period under the plan for augmentation decreed herein. Accordingly, in order to generate required return flows to replace depletions during pumping, each Dawson aquifer well must be used to provide water to one or more single family dwellings on the Property, and annual withdrawals shall be limited to withdrawal of 0.815 acre feet per well. Because this augmentation plan is dependent on return flows from indoor residential uses, no Dawson aquifer well approved pursuant to this plan for augmentation shall be allowed to pump water for any purpose unless it is also used in a residence on the lot on which such well is located.

17. Replacement of post-pumping depletions.

- A. Applicants shall replace actual out-of-priority post-pumping depletions to the stream caused by withdrawals from the Dawson aquifer wells constructed pursuant to the plan for augmentation decreed herein. It is Applicants' current intention to use nontributary water from the Denver aquifer water rights decreed herein to replace post-pumping depletions, and that process is described and decreed herein, but Applicants reserve the right to utilize a different source of water to replace post-pumping depletions pursuant to the provisions of ¶ 42, *infra*.
- Replacement of post-pumping depletions shall commence after the earliest of the five following events has occurred: (1) 1,467 acre feet have been pumped from the Dawson aquifer; or (2) ten consecutive years have passed with no pumping from the Dawson aquifer; or (3) when Applicants or their successors acknowledge in writing that all withdrawals for beneficial use from the Dawson aquifer have permanently ceased; or (4) when accounting shows that return flows from the use of the water being withdrawn from the Dawson aguifer well are insufficient to replace depletions that already occurred: or (5) when 300 years have passed since approval of this decree, i.e., the end of the year 2317 A.D. Applicants or their successors shall at that time cause a depletion analysis to be conducted, using the computer model generally accepted as being most accurate at that time, to calculate the amount and timing of post-pumping depletions which must be replaced, based on actual withdrawals during the applicable pumping period. Such depletion analysis shall be provided to the State and Division Engineers and to the Opposers herein as soon as practicable after it has been completed. After the depletion analysis has occurred, Denver aquifer water as decreed herein, or from such other source of water as receives judicial approval after notice, shall then be pumped at the appropriate times and delivered to the South Platte River system in a manner that will adequately replace all depletions from pumping of the Dawson aquifer wells approved pursuant to this decree. Applicants' successors in interest shall be required by the terms of this

decree to construct a Denver aquifer well pursuant to this plan for augmentation at the time replacement of post-pumping depletions must commence pursuant to this decree, unless a different source of water is approved by the Court for replacement of post-pumping depletions as described in ¶ 42, *infra*.

- C. Applicants hereby reserve and dedicate to this plan for augmentation 1,332 acre feet of Denver aquifer water decreed herein for the purpose of replacing all post-pumping depletions to the South Platte River system. This amount has been calculated as follows:
 - I. Based on a maximum allowable annual pumping of 4.89 acre feet for 300 years, a total of 1,467 acre feet may be pumped under this plan for augmentation. Approximately 162 acre feet of stream depletions will occur during the pumping period, and there will be approximately 1,305 acre feet of post-pumping depletions.
 - II. Rule 8 of the Denver Basin Rules, 2 CCR 406-2, requires that only 98 percent of nontributary Denver Basin water may be consumed. The amount of water which must be reserved to replace post-pumping depletions is 1,332 acre feet, which was calculated by dividing post-pumping depletions of 1,305 acre feet by 0.98 and rounding to the nearer whole acre foot.
 - III. Due to the provisions in this decree which limit: 1) the number of augmented Dawson aquifer wells to six, 2) the amount of water which may be pumped from each such well to 0.815 acre feet annually, and 3) the fact that depletions in the 300th year of pumping will equal 22.08 percent of such pumping, the amount of post-pumping depletions will not exceed 1,305 acre feet.
- D. If at some time Applicants receive judicial approval to use a different water source for augmentation purposes pursuant to the Court's retained jurisdiction as set forth in ¶ 42, *infra*, Applicants may petition the court pursuant to its retained jurisdiction to modify or terminate the reservation.
- 18. Recording of decree and covenants. A certified copy of this decree shall be recorded in the real estate records of El Paso County and shall constitute a covenant running with the land, requiring Applicants and their successors of the requirements of this decree and plan for augmentation, including the requirement to construct a Denver aquifer well or take other measures as necessary to replace post-pumping depletions. Additional covenants shall be recorded in the real estate records of El Paso County and shall clearly indicate that failure of the property owner to comply with the terms of this decree may result in an order from the State Engineer to curtail or eliminate pumping from the Dawson aquifer. Said covenants shall be amended as necessary to conform to the provisions of any amendment to this augmentation plan. Any proposed change in the method of wastewater treatment and disposal shall require Court approval after notice in the water resume and publication in a newspaper of general circulation in El Paso County.

- 19. Replacement of depletions to South Platte basin. Because depletions occur to both the South Platte and Arkansas River systems under the State's groundwater flow model, the application in this case was filed in both Water Divisions 1 and 2. The return flows set forth above as augmentation water will accrue to only the South Platte River system. Under this augmentation plan, the total amount of depletions will be replaced to the South Platte River system as set forth herein, and the Court finds that those replacements are sufficient under this augmentation plan, subject to the retained jurisdiction provisions of this decree.
- 20. Appurtenances to Property. This plan for augmentation, the right to 1,467 acre feet of Dawson aquifer water which may be pumped pursuant to the plan for augmentation, and the right to 1,332 acre feet of Denver aquifer water reserved for replacement of post-pumping depletions, shall be considered as appurtenances to the Property, and shall be conveyed pursuant to the appurtenance clause in any deed conveying the Property or any portion thereof, whether or not the plan for augmentation and the water rights are specifically referenced in the deed.
- 21. Meters and reporting requirements. All wells permitted pursuant to this decree shall be equipped with a properly installed and calibrated totalizing flow meter. Applicants shall record the metered use on November 1 and April 1 of each year, and report such use to the water commissioner within two weeks after the measurements have been made. The water commissioner may require more frequent metering and reporting.
- 22. <u>Finding of no injury</u>. The Court finds that under the terms and conditions herein the requirements of C.R.S. §37-90-137(9)(c.5) have been met, and that no injury will be caused to the owner of or anyone entitled to use water under a vested water right or decreed conditional water right so long as Applicants comply with the terms and conditions of the augmentation plan decreed herein.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 23. The Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action and over all persons who could have appeared herein, whether or not they did so appear.
- 24. All conditions precedent to the granting of this decree have been performed.
- 25. The plan for augmenting depletions caused by pumping the not nontributary Dawson aquifer is required by C.R.S. §37-90-137(9), and is subject to the requirement of C.R.S. §37-92-305(3) and 305(8) that no injury will occur to the owners of or persons entitled to use water under an absolute water right or decreed conditional water right as a result of implementing such plan for augmentation. Applicant has complied with all the conditions of C.R.S. §37-92-305(3), (8) and all other relevant statutes.
- 26. Applicants can maintain dominion and control over the septic system return flows by determining the quantity of such return flows, as set forth above, and thus has the legal ability to

use said return flows in this plan for augmentation. See, <u>Public Service Co. v. Willows Water District</u>, 856 P.2d 829 (Colo. 1993).

JUDGMENT AND DECREE

- 27. The forgoing findings of fact and conclusions of law are hereby incorporated into this judgment and decree.
- 28. Adjudication of Dawson aquifer water rights.
 - A. Applicants are granted a vested right to 3,498 acre feet of ground water in the not nontributary Dawson aquifer located beneath the Property, subject to modification by the Court under its retained jurisdiction.
 - B. Up to 1,467 acre feet of Applicants' Dawson aquifer water rights may be pumped pursuant to this plan for augmentation. All Dawson aquifer wells constructed pursuant to the plan for augmentation decreed herein shall be limited to withdrawals to 0.815 acre feet annually, and the well permits for such wells shall include such volumetric limit. The remaining 2,031 acre feet of Dawson aquifer water which is not included in the augmentation plan approved in this decree shall not be withdrawn for any purpose except pursuant to a separate court-approved plan for augmentation authorizing that water's withdrawal in accord with C.R.S. 37-90-137(a)(c.5).
 - C. Within 60 days of entry of this decree, Applicants shall apply for a new permit for the Dawson aquifer well currently permitted as permit no. 185701, which application shall be consistent with the terms and conditions of the plan for augmentation decreed herein.
- 29. Adjudication of Denver aquifer water rights.
 - A. Applicants are granted a vested right to 2,747 acre feet of ground water in the nontributary Denver aquifer located beneath the Property, subject to modification by the Court under its retained jurisdiction.
 - B. The 1,332 acre feet of Applicants' Denver aquifer water which is reserved for replacement of post-pumping depletions may be pumped only pursuant to the provisions herein regarding such replacement. The remaining 1,415 acre feet of Applicant's Denver aquifer water rights may be pumped at a rate not to exceed 14.1 acre feet annually except pursuant to the "water banking" procedures of Rule 8.A. of the Statewide Nontributary Ground Water Rules, 2 CCR 402-7, as set forth in ¶ 3 2below.
 - C. Applicants reserve the right to substitute a source of water other than the reserved 1,332 acre feet of Denver aquifer water for replacement of post-pumping depletions, under the Court's retained jurisdiction, after all required notices have been made. If that

occurs, the 1,332 acre feet of reserved Denver aquifer water, or such portion thereof which has not already been used for replacement purposes, may be released from that reservation, and may thereafter be used for any decreed, non-speculative use.

30. Adjudication of Arapahoe aquifer water rights.

- A. Applicants are granted a vested right to 1,745 acre feet of ground water in the nontributary Arapahoe aquifer located underneath the Property, subject to modification by the Court under its retained jurisdiction. The Arapahoe aquifer water rights are decreed for all beneficial uses, except municipal uses.
- B. The Arapahoe aquifer water may be pumped at an annual rate not to exceed 17.5 acre feet annually, except pursuant to Rule 8.A. of the Statewide Nontributary Ground Water Rules, 2 CCR 402-7, as set forth in ¶ 32 below.

31. Adjudication of Laramie-Fox Hills aquifer water rights.

- A. Applicants are granted a vested right to 1,141 acre feet of ground water in the nontributary Laramie-Fox Hill aquifer located beneath the Property, subject to modification by the Court under its retained jurisdiction.
- B. The Laramie-Fox Hills water may be pumped at a rate not to exceed 11.4 acre feet per year, except pursuant to Rule 8.A. of the Statewide Nontributary Ground Water Rules, 2 CCR 402-7, as set forth in ¶ 32 below.
- 32. "Water Banking." The "water banking" procedures of Rule 8.A. of the Statewide Nontributary Ground Water Rules, 2 CCR 402-7, cannot be applied to the Dawson aquifer water, which may be pumped only pursuant to a court-approved plan for augmentation, or to that portion of the Denver aquifer water which is reserved for replacement of use and for replacement of post-pumping depletions as described above, which precludes water banking. However, water banking procedures do apply to the "unreserved" 1,415 acre feet of the Denver aquifer and to all of the water in the Arapahoe and Laramie-Fox Hills aquifers. The allowed annual amount of withdrawal from those aquifers may exceed the allowed average annual amount of withdrawal for that aquifer as long as the total volume of water withdrawn from the well or wells does not exceed the product of the number of years since the date of entry of this decree, multiplied by the allowed average annual amount of withdrawal.
- 33. <u>Decreed Uses</u>. The ground water rights decreed herein are approved for all beneficial uses other than municipal uses, except that the 1,332 acre feet of Denver aquifer water reserved for replacement of post-pumping depletions are approved only for augmentation use pursuant to this decree unless and until such time as they are released from dedication pursuant to ¶ 17.c of this decree.
- 34. <u>Vested Water Rights</u>. The water rights decreed herein are vested water rights, and no applications for findings of diligence are required. Pursuant to C.R.S. §37-92-305(11), the Court

will retain jurisdiction as set forth in ¶ 40, *infra*, to finally determine the amount of water available for appropriation, based on site-specific data when it becomes available, and to adjust upward or downward as appropriate the amount available for withdrawal from each aquifer. The Applicants need not refile, republish, or otherwise amend this decree to request or obtain such adjustment.

- 35. Approval of Plan for Augmentation. The plan for augmentation described herein is approved. Depletions caused by pumping water from the Dawson aquifer shall be replaced as provided and decreed herein. Annual withdrawals from the Dawson aquifer shall not exceed 0.815 acre foot (265,569 gallons) per well, not more than 4.89 acre feet total. The State or Division Engineer shall curtail the pumping of more than those amounts from the Dawson aquifer absent prior modification of this plan for augmentation by amendment of this decree or Court approval of an additional plan for augmentation which replaces depletions attributable to such additional pumping. The State Engineer shall also curtail all diversions, the depletions from which are not replaced in a manner to prevent injury to vested water rights or decreed conditional water rights.
- 36. In order to ensure replacement of depletions during the pumping period, pumping and use of the Dawson aquifer wells for any beneficial uses other than indoor residential use shall not be allowed unless ground water is also being pumped and used for indoor residential use. In order for this plan for augmentation to operate, return flows from septic systems shall at all times during pumping be in an amount sufficient to replace the amount of stream depletions.
- 37. <u>Use in residences.</u> Each of the Dawson aquifer wells to be constructed pursuant to this plan for augmentation must be used for a single family residence in order to generate the septic system return flows necessary to replace depletions which occur during pumping of such wells, and shall be limited to a maximum pumping rate of 15 gallons per minute.
- 38. <u>Issuance of well permits</u>. Upon submission of a properly completed well permit application and filing fee, the State Engineer shall issue a permit for each well approved herein, consistent with the terms of this decree and all applicable statutes and rules. The State Engineer shall identify the specific uses which can be made of the ground water to be withdrawn, and shall not issue a permit for any proposed use, which use the State Engineer determines to be speculative at the time of the application or which would be inconsistent with the requirements of this decree and the plan for augmentation approved herein, or any modified decree and plan.

39. Additional provisions.

A. Applicants may construct additional and replacement wells in order to maintain levels of production, to meet water supply demands or to recover the entire amount of groundwater in the subject aquifers underlying the Property. As additional wells are planned, applications for new well permits shall be filed in accordance with C.R.S. §37-90-137(10).

- B. Two or more wells constructed into a given aquifer shall be considered a well field. In effecting production of water from such well field, Applicants may produce the entire amount which may be produced from any given aquifer through any combination of wells within the well field.
- C. In considering applications for permits for wells or additional wells to withdraw the groundwater which is the subject of this decree, the State Engineer shall be bound by this decree and shall issue said permits in accordance with provisions of C.R.S. § 37-90-137(4) and § 37-90-137(10). Each well shall be equipped with a properly functioning totalizing flow meter.
- D. Ground water production shall be limited to the subject aquifers. Plain, unperforated casing must be installed and properly grouted to prevent withdrawal from or intermingling of water from zones other than those for which the well was designed.
- E. Each well shall be permanently identified by its permit number, this Water Court case number, and the name of the producing aquifer on the above-ground portion of the well casing or on the pump house.
- F. In the event that the allowed average annual amounts decreed herein are adjusted pursuant to the retained jurisdiction of the Court, Applicants shall obtain permits to reflect such adjusted average annual amounts. Subsequent permits for any wells herein shall likewise reflect any such adjustment of the average annual amounts decreed herein.
- C.R.S. § 37-90-137(4)(B.5)(III)(c) provides that a reduction in the water table level in a Denver Basin aquifer due to pumping is not considered to constitute "material injury" to the vested water rights of others in the same aquifer. Pursuant to a plan for augmentation pending in Case No. 14CW3061, Water Division 1, Cherokee Metropolitan District may construct one or more Dawson aquifer wells with relatively high pumping capacity close to the Property. All applicants for well permits in the Dawson aguifer pursuant to the plan for augmentation decreed herein should carefully evaluate the depth to which such a well should be constructed, in order to reduce the possibility of a legal reduction in the water table of such well, due to the proximity of any high capacity well constructed by Cherokee Metropolitan District. In addition, notwithstanding any exception to well-spacing requirements for domestic exempt wells under the applicable rules, regulations, or other law pertaining to nontributary and not-nontributary ground water, all Dawson aquifer wells to be constructed pursuant to this decree shall be located no less than 600 feet from any easements owned by Cherokee Metropolitan District, which easements are shown in the map recorded with the El Paso County Clerk and Recorder on January 22, 1998 at Reception No. 098008100.
- 40. Retained jurisdiction provisions regarding quantity of water appropriated.

- A. The Court retains jurisdiction as necessary to adjust the average annual amounts of ground water available in each aquifer under the Property to conform to actual local aquifer characteristics as determined from adequate information obtained from wells, pursuant to CRS §37-92-305(11). Within 60 days after completion of any well decreed herein or any test hole(s) that are capable of withdrawing water from any of the Denver Basin aquifers, Applicants or any successor in interest shall geophysically log such well and shall serve copies of such log(s) upon the State Engineer, unless such well is exempted from that requirement pursuant to Rule 9.A. of the Statewide Nontributary Ground Water Rules, 2 CCR 402-7.
- B. At such time as adequate data is available, any person, including the State Engineer, may invoke the Court's retained jurisdiction to make a Final Determination of Water Right as to the quantities of water available for appropriation and allowed average annual withdrawals from any of the Denver Basin aquifers quantified and adjudicated herein. Any person seeking to invoke the Court's retained jurisdiction for such purpose shall file a verified petition with the Court in this case setting forth with particularity the factual basis for the Final Determination of Water Right, together with proposed decretal language. Within four months of notice that the retained jurisdiction for such purpose has been invoked, the State Engineer shall use the information available to him to make a final determination of water rights findings. The State Engineer shall submit such finding to the Water Court and the Applicant.
- C. If no protest to such finding is made within 60 days, this Court shall incorporate by entry of an Amended Decree such Final Determination of Water Rights into the final decree by the Water Court. In the event of a protest, or in the event the State Engineer makes no determination within four months, such final determination shall be made by the Water Court after notice and hearing.
- D. If the Final Determination for the Dawson aquifer reveals that there are less than 3,498 acre feet in that aquifer, or that there are less than 2,747 acre feet of water in the Denver aquifer, then at the time of the Final Determination, the plan for augmentation shall be modified to provide that during the scheduled 300 years of the plan for augmentation, total withdrawals from the Dawson aquifer will not exceed the total amount which is "finally determined," and that the amount of water necessary to replace post-pumping depletions, including the two percent relinquishment requirement, does not exceed the amount of "finally determined" Denver aquifer water. The State Engineer shall implement such modification pursuant to the retained jurisdiction provisions of ¶ 42, infra.
- 41. Retained jurisdiction regarding consideration of injury.
 - A. Pursuant to C.R.S. §37-92-304(6), C.R.S., the Court shall retain perpetual continuing jurisdiction over the plan for augmentation decreed herein for reconsideration of the question of whether the provisions of this decree are necessary and/or sufficient to prevent injury to vested water rights of others. The Court shall retain continuing

jurisdiction for so long as the Applicants are required to replace depletions to the South Platte River stream system to determine whether the replacement of depletions only to the South Platte River stream system, with no replacements being made to the Arkansas River stream system, is causing material injury to water rights tributary to the Arkansas River stream system. Any person may invoke the Court's retained jurisdiction at any time Applicants are causing depletions (including ongoing post-pumping depletions) to the Arkansas River system and is aggregating such depletions and replacing them to the South Platte River system. The person invoking the Court's retained jurisdiction shall have the burden of establishing a prima facie case that Applicants' failure to replace depletions to the Arkansas River system is causing injury to water rights owned by the person invoking the Court's retained jurisdiction, except that the State and Division Engineers may invoke the Court's retained jurisdiction by establishing a prima facie case that injury is occurring to any vested or conditionally decreed water rights. Applicants shall retain the ultimate burden of proving that no injury is occurring, or shall propose terms and conditions to prevent such injury. Among any other remedies it may impose, the Court may require that Applicants replace depletions to the Arkansas River system.

- B. The City of Colorado Springs owns senior water rights in the Arkansas River system that may be injured by the operation of this decree wherein depletions to the Arkansas River system will not be made to the Arkansas River system, but rather will be replaced to the South Platte River system. Colorado Springs reserves the right to claim that the cumulative impacts of this and other similar decrees constitute injury to its senior Arkansas River system water rights. In the interest of settlement only, Colorado Springs consents to the entry of this decree. However, by so doing, Colorado Springs does not waive its right to claim injury and to seek relief in the future pursuant to this paragraph. Conversely, Applicants are not hereby waiving any rights they have to claim that no injury is occurring as a result of replacements of depletions only to the South Platte River basin, or that any such injury is *de minimus*.
- 42. Retained jurisdiction regarding compliance with plan for augmentation, final determination of groundwater available for appropriation, and substitution of post-pumping <u>replacement sources</u>. The Court also retains perpetual jurisdiction for the purposes of a) determining compliance with the terms of the augmentation plan decreed herein; b) to finally determine the amount of water available for appropriation, based on site-specific data when it becomes available, and to adjust upward or downward as appropriate the amount available for withdrawal from each aquifer; and c) to consider any proposal by Applicants to substitute a source of water other than 1,332 acre feet of the Denver aquifer water decreed herein for the replacement of post-pumping depletions. Any proposal by Applicants to substitute the source of water for post-pumping depletions shall be approved by the Court, if at all, only after notice to all parties and the State and Division Engineers. Applicants shall bear the burden of proof to establish that such substitution will not cause material injury to any owner of vested or conditionally decreed water rights. Any person seeking to invoke the retained jurisdiction of the Court pursuant to this paragraph shall file a verified petition with the Court. The petition to invoke retained jurisdiction or to modify the decree shall set forth with particularity the factual basis upon which the requested reconsideration is premised, together with proposed decretal

language to effect the petition. The person lodging the petition shall have the burden of going forward to establish *prima facie* facts alleged in the petition. If the Court finds those facts to be established, Applicants shall thereupon have the burden of proof to show: (1) that any modification sought by Applicants will prevent injury to other appropriators, or (2) that any modification sought by the person filing the petition is not required to prevent injury to other appropriators, or (3) that any term or condition proposed by Applicants in response to the petition prevents injury to other appropriators.

Date: November 15, 2017

John S. Cowan Water Referee Water Division 1

The court finds that no protest was filed in this matter. The foregoing ruling is confirmed and approved, and is made the judgment and decree of this Court.

Date: December 7, 2017

Todd L. Taylor
Alternate Water Judge
Water Division 1

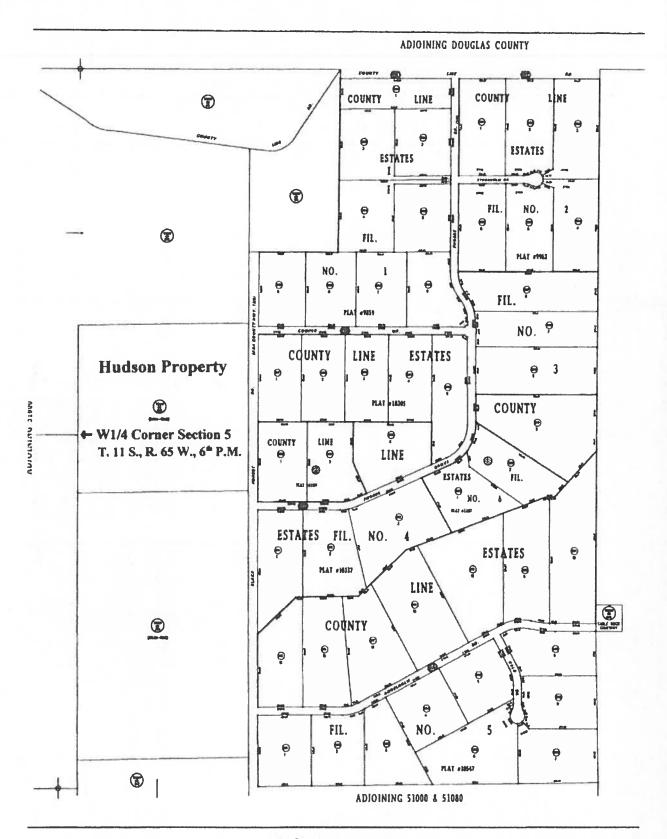


FIGURE 1

Hudson 16CW3180