



# Board of County Commissioners

## AWARD LETTER — GROSS RESERVOIR COMMUNITY IMPACT MITIGATION FUND (PHASE 1 DISTRIBUTION)

AUGUST 11, 2023

Addressed to:  
Owner of Record

PROPERTY ADDRESS: «**Property\_Address**», UNICORPORATED BOULDER COUNTY

Dear Property Owner,

Your household is eligible for a payment of «**Payment\_AMT**» as part of the *Denver Water v. Boulder County* Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement required Denver Water to pay \$5 million into a fund for direct payments to eligible property owners who are adversely impacted by Denver Water's Gross Reservoir Expansion Project (the "Project").

Your payment amount is based on a tiered payout structure recommended by county staff and the 12-member Gross Reservoir Community Impact Mitigation Fund Working Group and approved by the Boulder County Commissioners at a public meeting on June 29, 2023. Note: The Board of County Commissioners approved \$4 million to be spent from the "Reduce Impacts to Residents" Fund for a Phase 1\* Distribution. (For a video recording of the meeting, a list of FAQs, and a history of the work to determine the Phase 1 methodology and payments, visit: [boco.org/grossreservoir](https://www.boco.org/grossreservoir).)

**Please submit a completed W-9 and Award Claim Form (enclosed) by April 30, 2024, if you would like to receive your payment.** You can complete the forms electronically (and/or upload your completed/scanned forms online) using instructions at [boco.org/gross-payments](https://www.boco.org/gross-payments) or mail your completed forms to:

Gross Reservoir Impact Mitigation Fund  
Boulder County Commissioners' Office  
PO Box 471  
Boulder, CO 80306-0471

Once the county's Office of Financial Management has processed your forms, the OFM will issue a check and an IRS Form 1099-G. (See enclosed Award Claim Form for more details.)

\* Because Denver Water's operational plan for tree removal around Gross Reservoir will not be available until 2024, tree removal impacts were not considered in the first phase of funding. A sum of \$1 million has been held back for a future round of funding once the tree removal impacts are better known.

(over)

## Note from the Boulder County Commissioners

*Determining how best to distribute the money from the Denver Water Settlement Agreement has been a challenging process. We appreciate your patience in allowing us to take the time to listen and learn from everyone we've met at community meetings and through emails, phone calls, surveys, and the work of our staff liaison. It was very important to us that all points of view were collected and considered before any money was distributed from the Fund.*

*We are also grateful for the 12 members of the Community Advisory Working Group who met this spring to consider all the different ways that the money could be divided among the community. Their hard work led to a county decision to blend results from the Pinyon Environmental Analysis, which was used to rank projected air, noise, and visual impacts during the maximum impact point of construction (year 2024) with the real-world experience of the neighborhoods around Gross Reservoir.*

*While Pinyon's Analysis was a useful resource in helping Boulder County quantify anticipated impacts, the shared, lived experience of Gross Reservoir residents has been the single most important component in helping us identify the households with the greatest impacts and mitigation needs.*

*The adopted payment structure is designed to direct higher payments to households with significant, direct, mitigatable impacts so that those households may be able to use the money for more extensive (and expensive) measures to help address at least some of the high intensity impacts at their homes. We know that no payment will ever be an adequate substitution for your peace of mind and the quiet enjoyment of your home, nor that there could ever be a "perfect" system of payment distributions to satisfy every resident.*

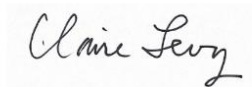
*We do believe, ultimately, that the payment structure is fair overall to the community at-large given the complex and complicated set of circumstances in relation to the Project and its proximity to each individual home and provided the limited amount of money to spread over more than 400 residences.*

*Please be sure to return your forms or file online by **April 30 next year** to receive your payment.*

*Barb Halpin, our staff coordinator for the Gross Reservoir Community Impact Mitigation Fund distribution project, can be reached at [grossreservoir@bouldercounty.gov](mailto:grossreservoir@bouldercounty.gov) or 720-564-2830 to answer any questions.*

*Sincerely,*

*Boulder County Commissioners*



Commissioner Claire Levy



Commissioner Marta Loachamin



Commissioner Ashley Stolzmann