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February 20, 2014

Clear Creek County Commissioners
Attn: Beth Luther, Executive Assistant to the Board of County Commissioners
405 Argentine St.
Georgetown, CO 80444

Re: Flooding Potential in Beaver Brook Watershed beginning March 2014.

Dear Commissioners Mauck, Hayden, and Buckland:

The Lookout Mountain Water District is writing to confirm our concerns to you and Clear Creek County as we approach the run-off season within the Beaver Brook Watershed of Clear Creek County.

We are noting several key concerns:

- February snowpack data from two Clear Creek basin snow courses is now reported at 135% of average.
- The District's Reservoirs (Upper Beaver Brook and Lower Beaver Brook) have remained full and overflowing since the flooding in September 2013; continual overflow from December through March is not the norm, but will be likely this year.
- The ground appears to be more heavily saturated than normal for this time of year due to the unusually wet fall.
- Any significant reduction in the water level in the reservoirs is not possible, for several reasons, including: 1) these dams are not flood control structures, 2) currently the release controls are frozen and 3) Colorado water law would not necessarily allow replacing such a release.

If these factors are combined with extended days of warm or very warm weather, we can expect that run-off will be significant, as the entire watershed's snow-melt will feed directly into Beaver Brook. If we are all fortunate and the warm weather days end up being interspersed with cooler days, or later in the season, the run-off season will be extended, which will reduce the volume on any given day and therefore reduce the risk of flooding.

The District is bringing this to your attention and recommending that special attention be given to keeping the culverts and drainages in the Beaver Brook and Beaver Brook Canyon area at their maximum capacity starting in early March. The County may also consider notifying the potentially effected downstream residents about the possibility of

flooding and for them to be especially alert during and following warmer weather days in the months of March, April, and May.

Thank you for your attention to these concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Donald Ranta /cd". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Donald Ranta
President of the Board of Directors
Lookout Mountain Water District

CC: Office of Emergency Management (oem@co.clear-creek.co.us)
Treatment Technology
Richard Toussaint
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