

**Estancia Basin Community Governing Bodies  
Resolution of Support for E.M.W. Gas Association 2007-10**

This **Resolution of Support for E.M.W. Gas Association** to engage in a feasibility study to provide a regional water system in the Estancia Basin is passed by the following Estancia Basin community governing bodies: **Town of Edgewood, Town of Estancia, City of Moriarty, Town of Mountainair, Torrance County, and Village of Willard.**

**RECITALS**

Whereas, the E.M.W. Gas Association is proposing to conduct a feasibility study to become a regional water utility system within the Estancia Basin; and

Whereas, growth projections for the communities in the Estancia Basin anticipate increased residential and economic development; and,

Whereas, the Estancia Basin is being depleted due to extensive and historical ground water mining resulting in serious water level declines; and

Whereas, the Basin communities are dependent on a sustainable water supply to ensure their continued and future economic vitality and there is growing uncertainty about the future availability of ground water in the Estancia Basin; and

Whereas, there is no benefit to the communities of the Estancia Basin when water is exported out of the Estancia Basin. Furthermore, exportation of water diminishes the self-sufficiency of communities in the Basin, and

Whereas, the local governments of the City of Moriarty, the Town of Edgewood, the Town of Estancia, and Torrance County have all acknowledged the potential detriment to the valley by adopting resolutions declaring their objection to the exportation of water from the Estancia Basin; and

Whereas, the Estancia Basin has been designated as a Critical Management Area by the Office of the State Engineer, requiring greater protection to ensure future ground water supplies; and

Whereas, the Estancia Basin has not been adjudicated by the State of New Mexico, and declared water rights far exceed historical pumping; and


Whereas, a significant portion of the ground water in the Estancia Basin is saline or brackish, although the extent and characteristics are not known, and there is a concern by residents of the Estancia Basin that Basin water quality in general is deteriorating due to extensive pumping; and

Whereas, E.M.W. Gas Association is a local non-profit municipally owned utility, subject to the state statutes for municipal utilities, which has successfully operated to benefit people within the economic region since 1964; and

Whereas, E.M.W. Gas Association's board is appointed by the towns of Estancia, Moriarty, and Willard; and is therefore already focused on the interests of the people in the economic region; and

Whereas, E.M.W. Gas Association's experience as a public utility, its position as a long-term successful local organization, and its current holding of utility easements, make it a particularly viable entity to provide the long-term needs for regional water delivery and management in the Estancia Basin;

**Now therefore, we as the Estancia Basin community governing bodies do hereby resolve to support a feasibility study by E.M.W. Gas Association to become a regional water utility within the Estancia Basin.**

  
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Town of Edgewood

2-7-07  
Date

  
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Town of Estancia  
Resolution 2007-01

1/16/07  
Date

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City of Moriarty

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Town of Mountainair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Torrance County

2/14/07  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Village of Willard

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date