



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**February 22, 2018**

## **Colorado and Nebraska Reach Agreement on Republican River Compact Claim**

Today the Governors and Attorneys General of Colorado and Nebraska announced that they have reached a settlement of claims regarding Colorado's past use of water under the Republican River Compact. The Compact allocates the waters of the basins between the states of Colorado, Nebraska and Kansas.

"This settlement provides funds that could be used in the Republican River Basin within Nebraska and creates additional opportunities for cooperative water management between the States," said Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper. Colorado Attorney General Cynthia H. Coffman said the agreement "avoids the costs and uncertainty of litigation and furthers the principles of the Compact, including removing controversy and fostering interstate cooperation."

Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts agreed that "Nebraska and Colorado can now continue to focus on providing their water users with greater certainty and to pursue other collaborative opportunities to benefit their shared economies." Nebraska Attorney General Doug Peterson also expressed his approval, stating that "this settlement is in the best interest of the State, and builds on our previous collaborative efforts."

The agreement resolves the existing controversies between the two states regarding Colorado's past use of water under the Republican River Compact and allows them to continue to work cooperatively.

Pending approval by the Colorado and Nebraska legislatures, the funds provided through this settlement, expected sometime later in 2018, will be managed by the Department of Natural Resources for surface water related projects that will add to the existing on-going implementation of the integrated management plans led by the Natural Resource Districts in the basin.

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