

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, COLORADO  
TOWN COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. TC2025-08**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF NEW CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL SUPPORTING  
THE COMMITMENT OF FUNDS FROM THE 2025 BUDGET TO SUPPORT THE  
COLORADO RIVER DISTRICT'S PURCHASE OF THE SHOSHONE WATER  
RIGHTS**

WHEREAS, the Colorado River District was established in 1937 to protect Western Slope water users and to safeguard for Colorado all waters of the Colorado River to which the state is entitled; and

WHEREAS the historic non-consumptive Shoshone water rights on the upper Colorado River, amounting to 1.02 million acre-feet, were made available for purchase; and

WHEREAS, on December 19, 2023, Xcel Energy and the Colorado River District executed a Purchase & Sale Agreement (PSA) to transfer ownership of the historic Shoshone water rights to the Colorado River District for the sum of \$98.5 million; and

WHEREAS, this agreement marks a significant step toward the permanent protection of the most senior, non-consumptive water right on the Colorado River—a project with a 20-year history of broad support from 20 western Colorado governments and water entities; and

WHEREAS, the Shoshone water rights, with a call of 1,408 cubic feet per second (cfs) on the mainstem of the Colorado River, provide critical benefits both upstream and downstream of Glenwood Canyon, supporting environmental sustainability, economic stability, and long-term water security for communities across the state; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of New Castle recognizes the generational significance of securing the Shoshone water rights and the essential role they play in protecting water resources for Colorado's residents, businesses, and ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, the Town of New Castle, through its 2025 budget process, has budgeted and appropriated funds for FY 2025 to contribute toward this historic water rights acquisition.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, COLORADO, AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Town of New Castle hereby formally commits \$100,000 from its 2025 budget toward the Colorado River District's purchase of the Shoshone Water Rights.
2. The Town Council recognizes this contribution as an investment in the long-term protection of Colorado's water resources and affirms its support for collaborative efforts to secure and sustain water security for future generations.

3. The Town Administrator is authorized to coordinate with the Colorado River District to facilitate the timely disbursement of these funds during the 2025 fiscal year and to take all necessary actions to implement this resolution.

Introduced, Read and Adopted at a Regular Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of New Castle, Colorado, on March 18, 2025.

**TOWN OF NEW CASTLE**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
[Mayor's Name], Mayor

Attest:

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[Town Clerk's Name], Town Clerk