

Carl Brady: Support for NISP is essential

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Letter to the Editor by Carl Brady

A recent article in the Times-Call showed dried-up farmland in California caused by the cessation of irrigation. It is a stark reminder of what is going to happen if the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP) is derailed. The Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Study for NISP, released June 19, estimates over 64,000 acres of farmland in our area will face a similar "drying-up" if construction of NISP is not approved and, ironically, this will occur at about twice the cost to area residents than that of NISP.

Public open houses and hearings for oral/written comments on the SDEIS will be held July 22 at the Hilton Fort Collins, 425 W. Prospect Road, in Fort Collins; and July 23 at the Weld County Administration Building, 1150 O St., Greeley. Open Houses will be from 5 to 6 p.m., and hearings will begin at 6 p.m. Area residents need to be aware that NISP faces opposition that can be expected to try to pack these hearings to stop NISP. And despite voluminous documentation to the contrary, these head-in-the-sand (no pun intended) NISP opponents continue to insist that all area water needs can be met with only increased conservation and efficiency.

Participants in NISP include the municipalities of Dacono, Eaton, Erie, Evans, Firestone, Fort Lupton, Fort Morgan, Frederick, Lafayette, Windsor and Severance, as well as the water districts of Central Weld County, Fort Collins-Loveland, Left Hand and Morgan County. If you are a resident of any of these areas, it is essential that you attend these hearings to express the need and your support for this critical project.

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