

Public Law 106-549  
106th Congress

An Act

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to contract with the Mancos Water Conservancy District to use the Mancos Project facilities for impounding, storage, diverting, and carriage of nonproject water for the purpose of irrigation, domestic, municipal, industrial, and any other beneficial purposes.

Dec. 19, 2000  
[S. 2594]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. CARRIAGE OF NONPROJECT WATER BY THE MANCOS PROJECT, COLORADO.**

(a) SALE OF EXCESS WATER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the Act of August 11, 1939 (commonly known as the “Water Conservation and Utilization Act”) (16 U.S.C. 590y et seq.), if storage or carrying capacity has been or may be provided in excess of the requirements of the land to be irrigated under the Mancos Project, Colorado (referred to in this Act as the “project”), the Secretary of the Interior may, on such terms as the Secretary determines to be just and equitable, contract with the Mancos Water Conservancy District and any of its member unit contractors for impounding, storage, diverting, or carriage of nonproject water for irrigation, domestic, municipal, industrial, and any other beneficial purposes, to an extent not exceeding the excess capacity.

(2) INTERFERENCE.—A contract under paragraph (1) shall not impair or otherwise interfere with any authorized purpose of the project.

(3) COST CONSIDERATIONS.—In fixing the charges under a contract under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall take into consideration—

(A) the cost of construction and maintenance of the project, by which the nonproject water is to be diverted, impounded, stored, or carried; and

(B) the canal by which the water is to be carried.

(4) NO ADDITIONAL CHARGES.—The Mancos Water Conservancy District shall not impose a charge for the storage, carriage, or delivery of the nonproject water in excess of the charge paid to the United States, except to such extent as may be reasonably necessary to cover—

(A) a proportionate share of the project cost; and

(B) the cost of carriage and delivery of the nonproject water through the facilities of the Mancos Water Conservancy District.

(b) WATER RIGHTS OF UNITED STATES NOT ENLARGED.—Nothing in this Act enlarges or attempts to enlarge the right of the United States, under existing law, to control any water in any State.

Approved December 19, 2000.

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LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 2594:

SENATE REPORTS: No. 106-427 (Energy and Natural Resources).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 146 (2000):

Oct. 13, considered and passed Senate.

Nov. 13, Dec. 4, considered and passed House.

