

# STATE OF COLORADO

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Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor  
James B. Martin, Executive Director

Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

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Colorado Department  
of Public Health  
and Environment

July 16, 2007

TO:            Public Water System Owner/Operator

RE:            Explanation of Enclosed Drinking Water Program Fee

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The Drinking Water Program of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment protects the health of citizens and visitors by ensuring that safe drinking water is provided by Colorado's public water systems. In addition, the Drinking Water Program provides compliance and technical assistance to public water system owners and operators by helping them to understand and meet the requirements of Colorado's Primary Drinking Water Regulations. The Drinking Water Program is responsible for implementing the federal Safe Drinking Water Act in Colorado. Most of the funding for this important program comes from the federal government. The Colorado state legislature also authorizes general tax funds for this program.

During the past legislative session, the Colorado General Assembly passed House Bill 1329. This Bill required that some funding for the Drinking Water Program be paid from fees applied directly to public water systems. You may recall that public water system fees were first instituted in 2003 in response to the state's fiscal crisis at that time, and that those fees expired in 2005. This year the legislature reestablished fees, but at levels that are approximately 38% less than what they were prior to July 1, 2005. The new fees are effective July 1, 2007, and are reflected on the enclosed invoice. The annual fee varies according to system type, source of water, and population served and is established in the legislation (§25-1.5-209, C. R. S.).

The enclosed invoice identifies the system type, source of water and population served for your water system pursuant to information maintained by the Water Quality Control Division. If you believe that your system has been billed incorrectly based on this information, please call the Division's customer assistance line at 303-692-3542 for information on updating your system's inventory data. Thank you for your consideration and timely remittance.

Ron Falco, P.E.  
Drinking Water Program Manager  
Water Quality Control Division