

# REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

## Project 7 Water Treatment Plant Facility Master Plan and Emergency Operations Plan

**Issue Date:** June 8, 2026

**RFP Number:** P7WA-2026-001

**Agent/Contact:** Adam Turner, General Manager, Project 7 Water Authority

**Submissions Must Be Received by:** July 16, 2026 at 2:00 pm Colorado Time

### ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

The Project 7 Water Authority is requesting proposals through the Request for Proposal process to prepare a facility master plan and emergency operations plans for the existing water treatment plant and its associated infrastructure (reservoir and distribution trunkline). Mandatory pre-proposal site walks will be available the week of June 22 and 29, 2026 and can be scheduled by contacting Adam Turner at (970) 596-6127. Proposals shall be submitted electronically to [bids@cityofmontrose.org](mailto:bids@cityofmontrose.org) and will be publicly received 2:00 PM on July 16, 2026 via Zoom at <https://tinyurl.com/P7MasterPlanBidOpen>. Late proposals will not be accepted and it is the responsibility of the bidders to ensure that proposals (including signed addenda) arrive by 2:00 PM on the date listed above.

Complete proposal packets can be downloaded from the City of Montrose procurement webpage at [www.cityofmontrose.org](http://www.cityofmontrose.org) under Department Services, Purchasing, and Open Bids. Addenda will be posted to the website and it is the bidder's responsibility to download, review, sign, and include addenda with their proposal.

Project 7 reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, to waive irregularities and/or informalities and to disregard all non-conforming, non-responsive, unbalanced or conditional proposals. Project 7 complies with all Equal Opportunity requirements. All qualified proposers will receive consideration without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, sex, marital status, religion, ancestry, mental or physical handicap or age.

## **1.0 GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### **1.1 CONTENTS OF PROPOSAL**

- A. Proposers shall thoroughly read the project requirements and specifications, and shall examine all documents incorporated into the RFP. As RFP documents change for each solicitation, returning Proposers shall not assume that this RFP contains the same terms and conditions used in prior solicitations. The Authority is not obligated to identify either minor or substantive modifications to RFP documents.
- B. Proposers shall make all investigations necessary to thoroughly inform themselves regarding the facilities, system conditions, and operational context affected by the services to be provided. No claim of ignorance by the Proposer of conditions that exist, or may hereafter exist, shall be accepted as a basis for varying the requirements of the Authority or the compensation to the Proposer following award.
- C. Proposers are advised that all Authority contracts are subject to all applicable local, state, and federal legal requirements governing the procurement of professional engineering services.
- D. Proposers are required to state the exact intent of their offer and shall identify any variances to the terms, conditions, or specifications of this RFP, no matter how slight. Any variance not stated in the proposal shall be construed to mean that the proposal fully complies with all conditions identified in this RFP. Variances and exceptions shall be listed in the project proposal (see Section 3.3.1).

### **1.2 CLARIFICATION AND MODIFICATION OF THE SOLICITATION**

- A. Apparent silence or omissions within this RFP regarding a detailed description of the services to be provided shall be interpreted to mean that customary professional engineering practice is to prevail and that only work product of professional quality shall be used.
- B. If any Proposer is in doubt as to the meaning of any portion of this RFP, the Proposer shall submit a written request for clarification to the Authority Contact identified in the Special Conditions. Requests for clarification must be received by the question deadline provided.
- C. Any official interpretation of this RFP must be issued in writing by the Authority Contact. The Authority shall not be responsible for interpretations offered by Authority staff who are not authorized to act on behalf of the Authority for this procurement.
- D. If necessary, the Authority may issue written addenda to clarify or inform Proposers of substantive changes that affect the technical submission. Addenda will be posted to the Authority's website and it is the Proposer's responsibility to download, sign, and return them with the proposal. In

the event of a conflict, addenda shall supersede the original RFP documents to the extent specified.

### **1.3 PRICING, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, AND TAXES**

- A. Cost Proposals. Cost proposals shall be presented in accordance with the format specified in Section 3.3.1. The Authority will evaluate cost proposals as one factor among several in determining the selected Proposer, consistent with Section 3.3.2.
- B. Independent Proposal. The Proposer, by submitting a proposal in response to this RFP, certifies that the proposal is made without prior understanding, agreement, or connection with any person or entity submitting a competing proposal, and that the proposal is in all respects fair and made without collusion or fraud. Any Proposer found to have falsified this certification may be disqualified and reported to appropriate authorities.
- E. Conflicts of Interest. Proposers shall not knowingly participate in solicitations where a conflict of interest exists between the Proposer (or its affiliates, principals, or key personnel) and a member of Authority staff, an Authority Director, or a member of any Authority advisory body. Proposers shall affirmatively disclose any potential conflicts in their proposal.
- F. Taxes. The Authority is exempt from Colorado state and local sales and use taxes and from federal excise taxes. Proposers shall not include such taxes in cost proposals. The Authority's tax exemption certificate will be provided upon request.

### **1.4 PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS**

- A. Proposals shall be submitted in electronic (PDF) format in accordance with the submittal instructions outlined in Section 2.4.
- B. Proposals shall contain a manual or electronic signature of an authorized representative of the Proposer on the proposal form included in Section 2.0. If the Proposer fails to sign the proposal, the proposal may be considered non-responsive.
- C. Cost proposals shall be provided in the format specified in Section 3.3.1.
- D. All information and supplemental documentation required by this RFP shall be furnished by the Proposer with its proposal. If the Proposer fails to supply any required information or documents, the Authority, in its sole discretion, may consider the proposal non-responsive.
- E. The accuracy of the proposal is the sole responsibility of the Proposer. No changes in the proposal shall be allowed after the submission deadline.

### **1.5 MODIFICATION OR WITHDRAWAL OF PROPOSALS**

- A. Proposers may modify a submitted proposal by official written notice received by the Authority Contact prior to the submission deadline. Each modification must clearly reference the RFP number and Proposer name. If more than one modification is submitted, the modification bearing the latest date and time of receipt will be considered the valid modification.
- B. Proposals may be withdrawn prior to the submission deadline by official written request from an authorized representative of the Proposer.
- C. Proposals may not be modified or withdrawn after the submission deadline for a period of ninety (90) calendar days. If a proposal is modified or withdrawn during this ninety (90) day period, the Authority may, at its option, suspend the Proposer from further participation in Authority procurements for a period determined by the Authority.

### **1.6 EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS**

- A. Proposals shall be evaluated based on responsiveness to the requirements of this RFP and the qualitative factors set forth in Section 3.3.2. Thoroughness, accuracy, professional judgment, qualifications, experience, and clarity of presentation shall be considered among other possible factors.
- B. The Authority may, in its sole discretion: reject any or all proposals (in whole or in part); re-advertise this RFP; postpone or cancel the procurement; waive any irregularities or technicalities in proposals received; and determine the criteria and process by which proposals are evaluated and awarded, consistent with applicable law.
- C. A proposal may not be accepted from, nor any contract awarded to, any person or entity that is in arrears to the Authority on any debt or contract, or that is in default as a surety or otherwise on any obligation to the Authority.
- D. No contract shall be awarded to any person or entity that has failed to perform any prior contract with the Authority.
- E. A proposal may not be accepted from, nor any contract awarded to, any person or entity that has pending litigation against the Authority on the proposal due date.
- F. The Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, or any combination of them, and to waive any informality or irregularity in the proposal or in the procurement process.
- G. The selected Proposer shall comply with all local, state, and federal laws, regulations, ordinances, and orders applicable to the work.

- H. No Proposer shall be excluded from consideration on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, disability, or sex, or be subjected to discrimination under any contract awarded by the Authority.

## **1.7 CONTRACTURAL OBLIGATIONS**

- A. The selected Proposer shall be required to enter into a written contract with the Authority based on the Authority's standard form of agreement, which is attached to this RFP (Authority Contract). Proposers shall review the draft form of agreement carefully and shall identify any requested exceptions in their proposal as described in Section 3.3.1. Exceptions are informational and are addressed under the "Contract Exceptions" criterion in Sections 3.3.1 and 3.3.2.

The Authority shall not have any duties or obligations of any kind to any Proposers, including but not limited to any selected Proposer unless and until a final contract is agreed to and executed by both parties. The Authority's selection of a Proposer does not guarantee—and should not create any expectation of any kind—that the Authority will enter into a contract with the selected Proposer.

## **2.0 SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

### **2.1 MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE**

Mandatory pre-proposal site walks will be available the week of June 22 and 29, 2026 and can be scheduled by contacting Adam Turner at (970) 596-6127. Three options will be available during this timeframe in order to provide some flexibility in scheduling and to keep group sizes small enough to effectively tour the existing plant. Attendance lists will be posted to the bidding website following completion of the meetings.

### **2.2 CONTACT PERSON**

During the course of this request process, from issuance until a recommendation for award, Bidders shall not initiate contact related to this request with anyone other than the officially designated individual:

For this bid, the contact is Adam Turner at (970) 596-6127 or by email at: Project7@montrose.net

Failure to abide by this requirement may result in disqualification from further participation in this process.

### **2.3 QUESTION DEADLINE**

All questions regarding this Request for Proposal shall be directed to the individual listed above. All inquiries shall clearly identify the name of the firm and the authorized representative, the RFP number, and title.

The deadline for receipt of questions from Bidders in regards to this RFP is 5:00 PM on July 13, 2026.

Responses will be prepared by Project 7 in an addendum and published on the City of Montrose bidding website at: [www.cityofmontrose.org](http://www.cityofmontrose.org) under Department Services, Purchasing, Open bids, under this bid name. The responses in writing are the only official answers.

### **2.4 SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS**

Project 7 desires to receive a clear, concise, and substantive presentation of the vendor's proposal. Proposers should submit the following by electronic mail to [bids@cityofmontrose.org](mailto:bids@cityofmontrose.org) by 2:00 PM on July 16, 2026. Please include the RFP number and title in the subject of the email, proposer's name and address in the body of the email, and include the following attachments:

1. PDF of the signed proposal form (see below)
2. PDF of the technical proposal (see Statement of Work)

3. PDF of signed bid addenda

The typical attachment limit for the submission email is 15 MB. If over this limit, submissions may be provided to the same email using a file transfer link (such as google drive or Dropbox). In these cases, the completed cost proposal must be attached directly to the email as to avoid the potential for modification post-bid via the file transfer link.

Failure to submit a proposal in the manner indicated may be cause for it to be considered 'non-responsive' and ineligible for consideration and subsequent award.

Proposals will be publicly received through video conference at:

<https://tinyurl.com/P7MasterPlanBidOpen> Late proposals will not be accepted and it is the responsibility of the proposers to ensure that proposals (including signed addenda) arrive by 2:00 PM on the date listed above. Please join using this link as results will be screen shared as they are opened. A call in number will also be provided when you join using this link should your computer not have audio capabilities.

## **PROPOSAL FORM**

### **SUBMITTED BY:**

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### **CERTIFICATION:**

The undersigned hereby affirms that:

- He/she is a duly authorized agent of the Bidder; and
- He/she has read the General Terms and Conditions, the Special Conditions and any technical specifications that were made available to the Proposer in conjunction with this RFP and fully understands and accepts these terms unless specific variations have been expressly listed as directed in Section 3.3.1; and
- The Submission is being offered independently of any other Proposer and in full compliance with the collusive prohibitions specified in the General Terms and Conditions of this solicitation; and
- The Bidder will accept any awards made to them as a result of this Solicitation for a minimum of ninety (90) calendar days following the date and time of the bid opening.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Manual or Digital Signature of Agent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Typed/Printed Name of Agent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title of Agent

## **3.0 STATEMENT OF WORK**

### **3.1 GENERAL ITEMS**

#### **3.1.1 Project Background**

The Project 7 Water Authority (Project 7) is a regional wholesale drinking water provider serving approximately 50,000 to 60,000 residents in the Uncompahgre River Valley of west-central Colorado. Project 7 owns and operates a 27.6<sup>1</sup> MGD water treatment plant located on US Highway 50 east of Montrose and provides finished water to six member entities: the City of Montrose, the City of Delta, the Town of Olathe, Tri-County Water Conservancy District, Chipeta Water District, and Menoken Water District. The Uncompahgre Valley Water Users Association (UVWUA) is not a member of Project 7 but is a key infrastructure partner which helps to deliver raw water to the treatment plant via the Bureau of Reclamation's Gunnison Tunnel and South Canal.

Raw water to the treatment plant comes from the Gunnison River via the Gunnison Tunnel, South Canal, and Fairview Reservoir as shown in the attached Figure 1. In the event of an emergency, raw water can also be delivered to the treatment plant from Cerro Reservoir, a 720 acre-foot reservoir owned and operated by the City of Montrose on Cerro Summit. Treated water is then distributed through approximately thirty miles of 24" to 30" regional transmission piping to approximately 16 metered distribution points of the six member entities. Water rights for the member entities are held in Ridgway Reservoir and exchanged with the UVWUA for irrigation use. The municipal and industrial pool allocated to the member entities within Ridgway totals approximately 28,000 acre-feet although they collectively only use about 10,000 acre-feet on an annual basis.

The treatment plant and associated infrastructure have historically performed reliably, but Project 7's board, member entities, and technical advisors have long recognized that the lack of redundancy in source, conveyance, and treatment represents a vulnerability to the system. In response to this vulnerability, Project 7 pursued a Resiliency Project starting in 2018 which aimed to construct a second water treatment plant near the town of Colona. The second plant planned to draw water from Ridgway Reservoir (via a new raw water line), treat and soften up to 6 MGD, and distribute treated water north through a new distribution main. Please see Section 3.1.3 for design studies and reports associated with the Resiliency Program which provide additional detail and summaries of work performed to date.

As design of the second treatment plant and its associated infrastructure progressed and its scope grew, the final cost estimate landed around \$165M. As it came time to finance the project, member entities began to question the project's value and support for a second treatment plant started to wane. Concerns were raised about the Resiliency Project's cost-benefit ratio, costs to ratepayers, community buy in, the ability to implement other capital needs, relatively small size (only 6 MGD), and its ability to accomplish the initial project goals. In response to this, the Project 7 board created a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) comprised of staff representatives from each member entity and key stakeholders to take a fresh look at the system, project goals, and to make recommendations regarding a path forward for improving the

<sup>1</sup> See first bullet of Section 3.1.2 regarding plant capacity

resiliency (and capacity) of Project 7's infrastructure. Key takeaways and recommendations from the TAG group are summarized in the following section.

### 3.1.2 Technical Advisory Group Finding and Recommendations

The following are key takeaways from the TAG meetings and discussions with partner stakeholders:

- **Plant Capacity.** Figure 2 is included as an excerpt from the 2022 System Optimization Report showing the plant capacity in relation to expected demands at the existing plant. These initial efforts generally appear to have relied on the full plant capacity (27.6 MGD) being available; however, recent discussions with operator staff have indicated that the practical capacity of the plant is actually closer to 21 MGD. Staff have indicated they do not feel the plant could run reliably up to the rated capacity of 27.6 MGD. Drawing a line on Figure 2 at 21 MGD, it appears that overall system capacity may come into play as early as 2040 for the peak summer months.
- **Plant Operations.** Project 7 operator staff also shared several stories of near-miss mechanical breakdowns throughout the years that risked shutting down the Project 7 plant due to aging infrastructure and challenges associated with obtaining mechanical parts for select components. Although not unique to the Project 7 treatment plant, these discussions did highlight the general lack of redundancy at the existing plant without dual treatment trains; during peak summer demand, both clarifiers run full time. In addition to leaving the plant vulnerable, this also reduces the available maintenance window to work on major plant infrastructure. Lastly, the staff also highlighted the treatment technologies sensitivity to water quality, identifying that the plant does struggle to adapt to changes in raw water quality.
- **Risk/Resiliency.** The TAG took a fresh look at the risk matrix for Project 7's key infrastructure. This exercise was intended to help identify any new risks that may have developed since previous risk discussions were held (see Section 1.3), collectively agree upon where they would land on a probability-impact matrix, and to understand how these may be addressed through improvements at the existing plant (in lieu of a second treatment plant near Colona). The general thought was that if capital improvements were warranted at the existing plant anyway (to modernize treatment technology, improve redundancy at the plant, improve plant capacity, etc) then how could these improvements be implemented to also reduce overall risk and capitalize on existing infrastructure serving the plant. A copy of the risk matrix developed with the TAG group is included as Figure 3.
- **Project Financials.** Another focus area of the TAG discussions was the desire to understand the comprehensive financial picture for Project 7's infrastructure. Members were hesitant to move forward with a second treatment plant without understanding capital needs for the remainder of Project 7 over the planning horizon (incl. the existing plant, Fairview Reservoir, and the treated water transmission line).
- **Emergency Operations.** Lastly, the TAG focused some time on the need for existing emergency operation plans. In the event of an emergency associated with the existing infrastructure,

members felt it would be best to have plans developed to adapt to changes in raw water quality, to utilize Cerro Reservoir effectively (incl. sharing of City water shares), to distribute a reduced output volume across the member entities, and to potentially distribute water via interconnects between member entities in the event of a transmission line failure. The member entities have conceptual plans of how to operate in an emergency but these have not been fully developed or exercised over the years.

In response to the items identified above, the TAG group recommended that Project 7 implement a facility master plan and develop emergency operations plans as the next step for Project 7's long-range facility and operational planning. The Project 7 Board agreed to this approach at their April 23, 2026 meeting and authorized release of this RFP. Additional details regarding the objectives and anticipated scopes of work for each of these work elements are included in Section 3.2 below.

### **3.1.3 Reference Documents**

As part of previous planning efforts and the 2018+ Resiliency Project, several studies have been completed with regard to the existing plant and system vulnerabilities. A compilation of these previous efforts, combined with relevant planning documents from partner entities, are summarized below and available for download at <https://tinyurl.com/Project7RFPBackgroundData>

1. Hydraulic Modeling and System Optimization Review (Garver, 2022)
2. Fairview Reservoir Project Understanding and Path Forward (Garver, 2026)
3. Project 7 Board Risk Workshop Summary (HDR, 2026)
4. Interim Progress Memo for the 2026 Risk Study Update (HDR, 2025)
5. Project 7 Risk Assessment Study (HDR, 2013)
6. 2009 Master Plan/System Optimization/Capacity Study (Scan pending, will be uploaded to drive once available)
7. Ridgway Transmission Pipe Routing Study (Farnsworth, 2017)
8. Project 7 Water Authority Rate Survey (DA Davidson and HDR, 2026)
9. Harmful Algal Bloom Characterization Report (USGS, 2025)
10. Delivering Water Through UVWUA Facilities to Project 7 (ITRC, 2013)
11. UVWUA Integrated Assessment/System Optimization Analysis (ITRC, 2013)
12. City of Montrose Water Master Plan (Farnsworth, 2013)
13. Tri County Water Capital Improvement Plan (HDR, 2023)
14. Raw Water Transmission Line Project Drawings

As-built drawings for the existing Project 7 treatment plant are currently in the process of being digitized. Digital copies of these plans are expected to be available prior to award of the contract. As built drawings for Cerro and Fairview Reservoirs will also be made available to the selected consultant. These were not included with the RFP file share for security purposes.

These materials are made available without warranty or representation as to their accuracy, completeness, or current applicability, and Proposers shall conduct their own independent review of the Authority's system and operations as part of proposal development.

### **3.2 SCOPES OF WORK**

#### **3.2.1 Project Objectives and Anticipated Scope of Work - Consultant**

##### **Facility Master Plan**

The facility master plan aims to help Project 7 understand capital projects that are likely to be necessary within the next 50 years to meet anticipated maintenance, capacity, regulatory, and resiliency needs for their facilities. For purposes of this study, the facility includes all of Project 7 and its related infrastructure (Fairview Reservoir, raw water feed lines, existing treatment plant, and treated water transmission main). Although previous master plans have been implemented for the facility (see Section 3.1.3), these efforts have focused mostly on identifying and eliminating capacity limitations at the existing plant. The master plan proposed herein aims to expand this scope to include the following at a minimum:

- A. Perform a review of existing facilities through examination of design studies, as-built documents, record documents, record data, and field investigations/observations as necessary.
- B. Review/confirm water demand projections for the 50-year planning horizon, using the latest State of Colorado demographer data for population growth estimates and by analyzing recent usage trends.
- C. Identify potential regulatory changes that may impact Project 7 facilities or drive the need for regulatory-driven capital improvements.
- D. Identify detailed condition assessments that may be warranted to close any data gaps identified during the facility review discussed above. This may include items such as smart-pigging of transmission lines, robotic/camera inspections of inaccessible infrastructure, non-destructive testing of facility components, etc. Please note, because this scope is not known at this time, these detailed condition assessments do not need to be formally included in the scope or priced with the RFP at this time.
- E. Identify/assess deficiencies, vulnerabilities, bottlenecks, single points of failure, and items lacking redundancy for existing facilities. Similar to the risk evaluations discussed in previous design studies and Section 3.1.2, this is intended to evaluate risk to the system from both internal and external factors. Quantify/characterize risks to the extent practicable to aid in decision making and master planning.
- F. Identify opportunities and alternatives for risk reduction and plant modernization at Project 7 facilities, with a focus on actions that can be implemented to improve existing infrastructure (e.g., modernizing treatment processes to make the plant less susceptible to changes in raw water quality (such as due to a wildfire or other source disruption) while adding redundant treatment trains and adding capacity). This should also identify potential external projects (e.g., a pressurized raw water pipeline that could deliver Uncompahgre River water via UVWUA facilities in the event of a disruption from the Gunnison Tunnel or South Canal) or other off-site improvements that could aid in risk reduction to the Project 7 system. Potential alternatives may

also present differing operational, hydraulic, source water, or water right integration advantages/disadvantages among member entities depending on the location and configuration of the proposed infrastructure. The consultant should recognize that operational characteristics, hydraulic constraints, source-water considerations, and resiliency benefits may differ between member entities due to factors such as system elevation, pumping requirements, geographic location, existing infrastructure configuration, and water-right administration. Alternatives evaluation should consider these differing regional impacts and operational tradeoffs to the extent practicable.

- G. Identify potential capital projects anticipated within the next 50 years to address growth, deficiencies, and opportunities identified in the items above. For each potential project, identify space needs, prepare planning-level cost estimates, and identify potential sequencing/timelines for implementation. The 50 year planning horizon was selected to ensure placeholders exist for potential long-range capital needs and to ensure a sustainable funding mechanism is developed to fund these improvements. It is understood that prioritization, costs, and implementation timelines become less certain beyond 30 years and will need to be revisited over time.
- H. Hold workshops with Project 7 staff, TAG personnel, and the Project 7 board to discuss pros, cons, variations of potential capital projects, and work to reach consensus among this group on the preferred path forward.
- I. Following consensus on the preferred path forward/selection of preferred projects, prepare a 50-year capital improvement plan for the Project 7 facilities and associated improvements.
- J. Prepare a final report summarizing the methodology, findings, and recommendations for the Project 7 facility master/capital improvement plan.

### **Emergency Operation Plans**

The emergency planning efforts aim to identify near-term operational vulnerabilities of Project 7 and its emergency backup systems as they relate to existing infrastructure and to formalize emergency operational plans for adoption by the member entities. This is expected to include the following scope of work at a minimum:

- A. Perform a review of existing facilities through examination of design studies, as-built documents, record documents, record data, and field investigations/observations as necessary.
- B. Hold a workshop with Project 7 staff and the TAG to identify near-term operational vulnerabilities of the Project 7 system.
- C. For identified vulnerabilities, perform technical evaluations as needed and coordinate with staff/TAG to determine what emergency actions are viable to reduce the associated risk to water service disruption or water quality. This effort aims to answer the following for known near-term vulnerabilities:
  - a. What actions can be taken with the existing treatment processes to address a change in water quality resulting from a major wildfire or similar water quality disruption within the Gunnison River's watershed?
  - b. If it were necessary to draw emergency water from Cerro Reservoir, how much raw water can effectively be delivered to the plant on a daily basis? This is expected to include hydraulic calculations or the development of models for the existing raw water pipeline between Cerro Reservoir and the South Canal.

- c. In the event of reduced output from the existing treatment plant, how should the limited water supply be physically distributed to the member entities (e.g., does each entity get a pro-rated share and an allowable window to fill their tanks)?
  - d. In the event of a major supply disruption (e.g., collapse or major repair of the Gunnison Tunnel/South Canal), what options exist to deliver Uncompahgre River or Cedar Creek water to the head of the existing treatment plant? Is it reasonable to expect that this could be treated by the existing plant to achieve primary drinking water standards? This effort is likely to include hydraulic capacity evaluations of existing canal delivery systems and general sizing of emergency pumps and pipelines, as applicable.
  - e. In the event of an extended outage or failure of the treated water transmission main running to Delta, what actions can be taken to distribute water via emergency interconnects between each member entity's individual water distribution systems? This effort is anticipated to include compilation of existing GIS data from member entities, development of a limited-scope hydraulic model (focusing on the backbone network that could be interconnected), identification of potential interconnection points, sizing recommendations, and potential excess capacity (if any) that could be shared. Design of the physical interconnects is beyond this scope of work.
- D. Prepare planning-level cost estimates for any infrastructure improvement recommendations identified as part of the planning process above.
  - E. Prepare a final document summarizing the methodology, findings, and recommended emergency operations. This document is intended to be utilized by operators and administrative staff for training and operational purposes.

#### **Project Management, Meetings, and Coordination**

- A. Prepare monthly invoices with cover letters summarizing work performed for the invoice period, supporting tabulation of hours by date and task for employees working on the project, running project totals/percentages broken down by task, and supporting expense reports with invoices for reimbursable expenses.
- B. Attend three to four monthly meetings to discuss project progress and any issues that arise. Most meetings will be held with Project 7 staff and members of the TAG although several meetings with the Project 7 board are likely throughout the project. With the exception of kickoff and workshop meetings which would occur in person, routine progress meetings may take place virtually.
- C. Coordinate with Project 7 member entities to obtain any necessary data (e.g., GIS water-system shape files).

#### **Additional Work Items**

The scope of work included above is intended to capture all tasks necessary to allow for development of the facility master plan and emergency operation plans. However, the potential does exist that necessary tasks may have been omitted from the scope of work provided. Proposers are encouraged to identify in their proposal any additional missing tasks (incl. pricing) they feel would be necessary to achieve the project objectives.

### **3.2.2 Project 7 Water Authority**

- A. Serve as the contracting entity/designee and Authority Project Manager to serve as the primary point of contact for the consultant.
- B. Provide reasonable access to Authority facilities, record documents, and operations staff as necessary for the work.
- C. Facilitate coordination meetings with member entity staff and the Authority's Technical Advisory Group.
- D. Provide existing studies, reports, GIS data, SCADA data, and other available information relevant to the work.
- E. Review and provide consolidated written comments on draft technical memoranda and the draft deliverables within agreed-upon review periods.
- F. Coordinate the participation of Authority outside counsel and other professional advisors as needed.
- G. Make payments to the Consultant in accordance with the agreed-upon payment schedule and the Authority's standard accounts payable practices.
- H. Assist in coordinating any data needs from member entities.
- I. Pursue any land acquisitions identified as necessary for future plant modernization/expansion.

For your information, Project 7 is also currently moving forward with a standalone capital project to add valve controls to the upstream ends of the Fairview Reservoir intake pipes and formally assess the condition of the raw waterlines between the reservoir and valve house. This project is in response to requests from the State Dam Safety Engineer to have upstream control on the line and assess its condition. The timeline for implementation of this project is still being finalized.

### **3.2.3 Out of Scope Work Items**

The following items are specifically excluded from this RFP. Some of these items may be awarded as change orders (at the sole and unilateral discretion of Project 7) to the contract as needed to effectively complete the proposed facility master plan and emergency operation plans. Others are expected to be standalone work efforts to be implemented following adoption of a comprehensive capital improvement plan for Project 7.

- A. Detailed condition evaluations for any major data gaps identified (e.g., if smart pigging of the transmission line is warranted).
- B. Detailed designs of proposed capital improvements.
- C. Intergovernmental agreements associated with emergency operations plans, bylaws, or cost sharing between member entities.
- D. Financial plans (incl. borrowing, rate studies, etc).
- E. Pursuit of grants for implementation.

### **3.3 PROPOSAL FORMAT, SCHEDULE, AND SELECTION**

#### **3.3.1 Proposal Format**

The technical proposal should include the following at a minimum:

- A narrative of the proposed technical approach and methodology for the scope of work identified in Section 3.2.1, the integration of studies and work performed to date, and any work elements the Proposer believes should be included in the Project.
- A list or organizational chart for personnel to be assigned to the project and discussions of each person's role.
- Resumes for key personnel to be assigned to the project.
- A list of proposed design sub-consultants, their role on the project, and a discussion of past experience working with them. Although the available scope of work may be limited due to the specialized nature of the work, the Authority does wish to see the utilization of local resources if possible for applicable project tasks.
- The proposed project schedule, consistent with dates set forth in Section 3.3.3.
- A general summary of relevant experience performing similar work with references for each with an emphasis on work performed for western-state water utilities and regional wholesale water authorities.
- Proposed rate sheet for the consultant and any sub-consultants. Include standard markup for reimbursable expenses (travel, lodging, consumable supplies, pass-through expenditures, etc), markup for sub-consultants, and standard per-diem rates, as applicable. The rate schedule shall be proposed for a term of not less than two years from Notice to Proceed and shall serve as the basis for any follow-up task orders issued under the resulting agreement, as applicable.
- Costs to perform the above-described scope of work on a time-and-materials (T&M) not-to-exceed basis broken down by work elements presented in Section 3.2.1. Proposers may utilize their own cost proposal form for this element; however, it is asked that the cost proposal include detailed cost breakdowns by task, rate classification, and anticipated hours in general conformance with the template included as Table 1. Although the project will be tracked by the work elements presented above, the contract's not-to-exceed number will apply only to the bottom line, (i.e., funds may be shifted between work elements as necessary so long as the bottom line is not exceeded).
- A list of any exceptions the Proposer takes to the proposed contract terms or project approach.
- Any additional information the proposer feels would be useful to the review committee for evaluation of proposals.

This RFP was prepared on the assumption that consultants would likely propose on both the facility master plan and emergency operations plan work elements as a single project. However, if a consultant wishes to propose on only one of these two work elements, please feel free to do so.

### **3.3.2 Selection Criteria**

Proposals will be evaluated by Project 7 staff and the Project 7 TAG by assigning a score between 0 and 4 in each of the weighted categories listed below. Final scores will be used as the basis for selection of the preferred consultant for recommendation of contract award to the Project 7 Board of Directors (Board). The Board retains the sole and final authority to select a Proposer for the work described herein, and the Authority shall not have any duties or obligations to any Proposers unless and until the Authority and a Proposed selected by the Board have entered into a final contract for services.

- Qualifications/experience of the project team performing similar scopes of work: 20%
- Overall proposal presentation, level of detail, and project understanding: 30%
- Reference considerations: 20%
- Price: 30%
- Contract exceptions, if applicable – Informational, may be considered in award recommendation
- Utilization of local resources, if applicable - Informational, may be considered in award recommendation

Depending on the results of the proposal evaluation process, a short list of proposers may be invited for 90 minute project presentations and interviews with the Project 7 team prior to final selection. These may be performed virtually if desired by the Proposer.

### **3.3.3 Project Schedule**

Proposers are asked to prepare a project schedule broken down by key project tasks (incl. identification of key project milestones) provided in Section 3.2.1. The project schedule is subject to the following conditions:

- RFP Opening: July 16, 2026
- Consultant Interviews: August 3 to 7, 2026
- Anticipated Notice of Award: August 27, 2026
- Contract Execution and Notice to Proceed: Several days following contract execution by consultant
- Project Complete: September 1, 2027

### **3.3.4 Proposal as Contract**

Items contained in the selected proposal by the Board may be considered conditions of the contract, as applicable. In the event the agreement documents conflict with elements of the proposal, the agreement documents shall govern. The Authority reserves the right to reject any or all responses to this RFP and to waive any irregularities in any response received.

## **TABLES**

| TABLE 1<br>General Cost Proposal Template <sup>(a)</sup> |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                   |                   |                   |                       |                                                |                      |                                    |               |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Job Classification                                       | Classification 1 | Classification 2 | Classification 3 | Classification 4 | Classification 5 | Classification 6 | Classification 7 | Classification 8 | Classification 9 | Classification 10 | Classification 11 | Classification 12 | Direct Labor Subtotal | Anticipated Expenditures (days) <sup>(b)</sup> | Expenditure Subtotal | Subconsultant Costs (Incl. Markup) | TASK TOTAL    |
| Anticipated Staff                                        | Name             | Name             | Name             | Name             | Name             | Name             | Name             | Name             | Name             | Name              | Name              | Name              |                       |                                                |                      |                                    |               |
| Rate                                                     | \$Hourly Rate    | \$Hourly Rate    | \$Hourly Rate    | \$Hourly Rate    | \$Hourly Rate    | \$Hourly Rate    | \$Hourly Rate    | \$Hourly Rate    | \$Hourly Rate    | \$Hourly Rate     | \$Hourly Rate     | \$Hourly Rate     |                       | \$Daily Rate                                   |                      |                                    |               |
| TASK 1 NAME                                              |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                   |                   |                   |                       |                                                |                      |                                    |               |
| Subtask 1 Name                                           |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                   |                   |                   |                       |                                                |                      |                                    |               |
| Subtask 2 Name                                           |                  |                  |                  | Hours            |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                   |                   |                   |                       |                                                |                      |                                    |               |
| Subtask 3 Name                                           |                  |                  |                  | Where            |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                   |                   |                   | Sum Hours x Rate      | Days                                           | Days x Rate          | Cost                               | Sum Subtotals |
| Subtask 4 Name                                           |                  |                  |                  | Applicable       |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                   |                   |                   |                       |                                                |                      |                                    |               |
| Subtask 5 Name                                           |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                   |                   |                   |                       |                                                |                      |                                    |               |
| Subtask 6 Name                                           |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                   |                   |                   |                       |                                                |                      |                                    |               |
| Subtask 7 Name                                           |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                   |                   |                   |                       |                                                |                      |                                    |               |
| TOTALS                                                   | Sum Above        | Sum Above        | Sum Above        | Sum Above        | Sum Above        | Sum Above        | Sum Above        | Sum Above        | Sum Above        | Sum Above         | Sum Above         | Sum Above         | Hours x Rate          | Sum Above                                      | Sum Above            | Sum Above                          | TASK TOTAL    |

Subconsultant Notes

Note vendor and type

Subconsultant Notes

Note vendor and type

**Notes:**  
(a) Cost proposal template provided is intended to demonstrate the general level of detail and breakdown desired for the project's cost proposal. Proposers may utilize their own format in general conformance with this template.  
(b) Anticipated daily expenditure rate for travel days (meetings, workshops, field investigations etc). Incl. items such as travel reimbursables, per-diem, lodging, etc

## **FIGURES**

# PROJECT 7 WATER AUTHORITY

## SOURCE & TRANSMISSION LINES

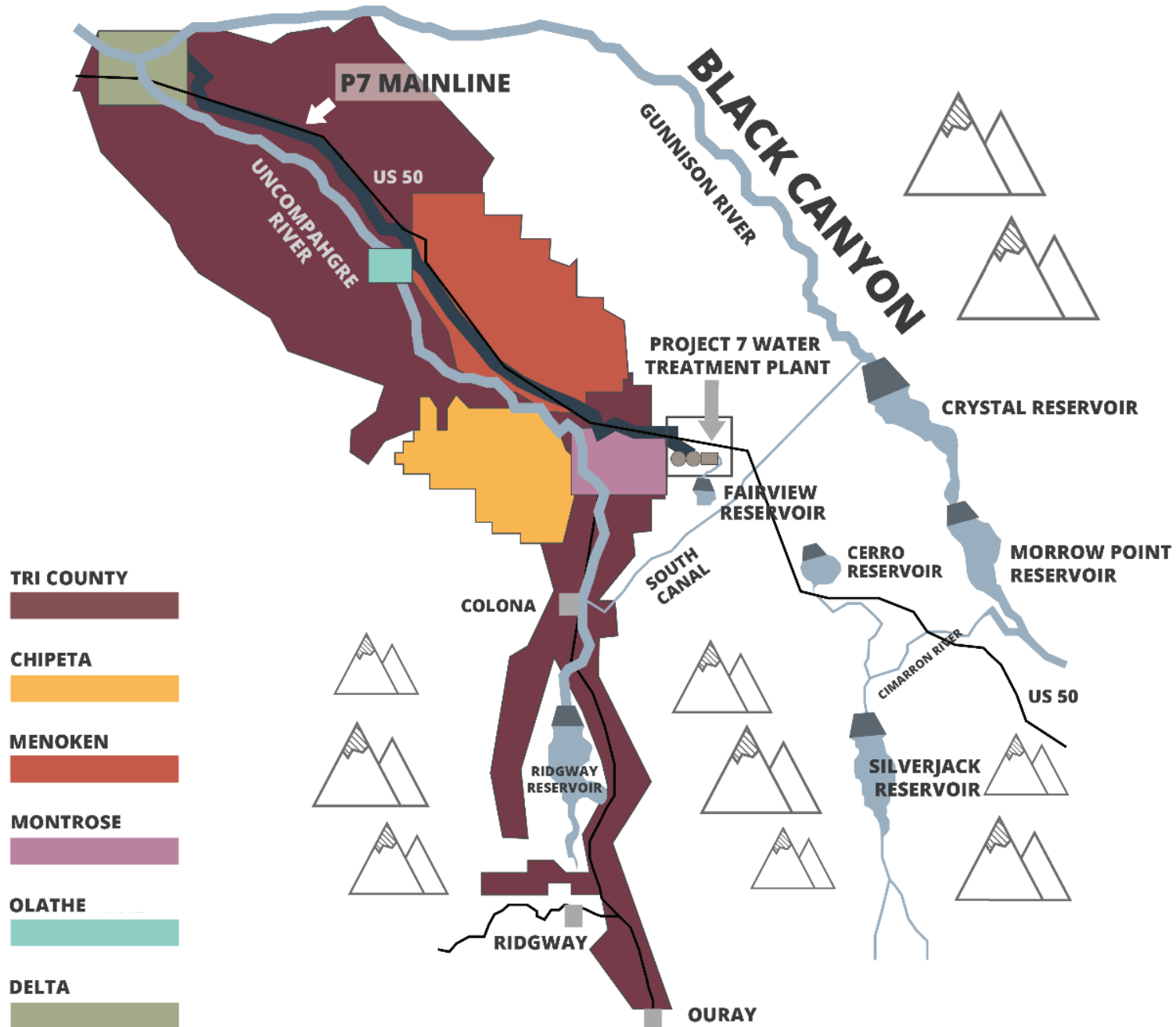
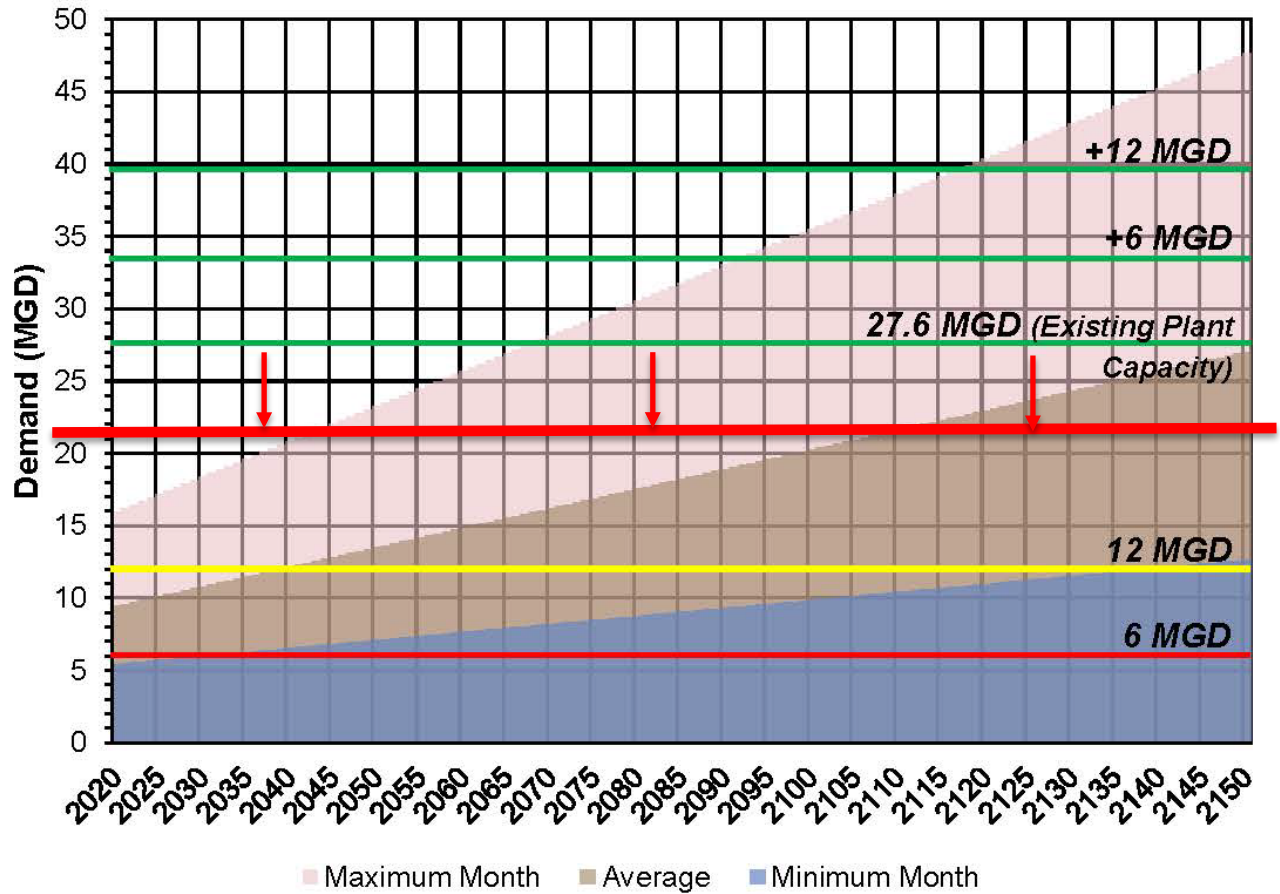


Figure 1: Project 7 System Overview Map



**Figure 2: Project 7 Demand Projections**  
(Source: 2022 System Optimization Report)

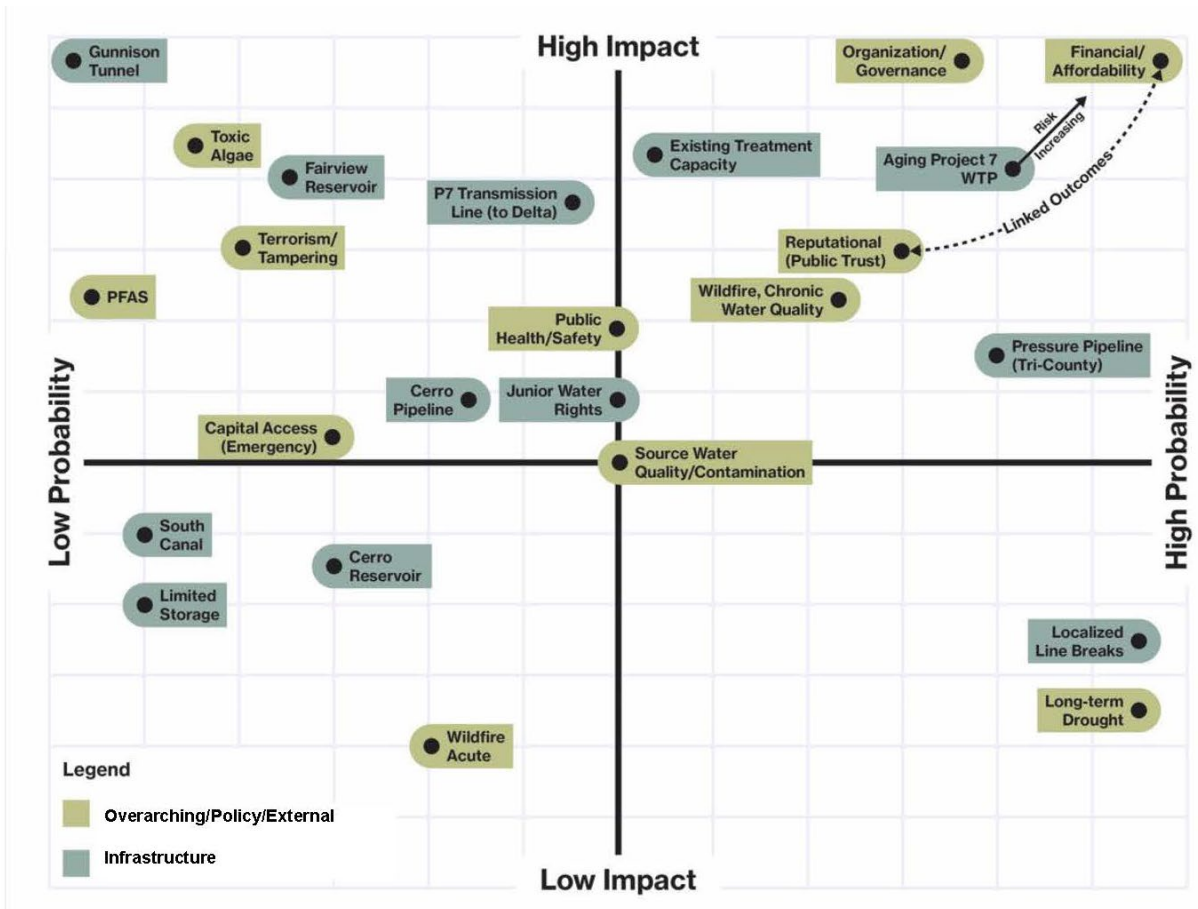


Figure 3: Risk Matrix Developed with TAG Group in Early 2026