

changes adopted at the March hearings. These documents will likely be approved. The EPA will announce in July whether or not it concurs; if and when that happens, the regulations will go into effect.

Then, as treatment facilities' permits come up for renewal, the new numbers will become the facilities' new nutrient requirements, and they will be given a certain time period to comply. New facilities will be built or current ones upgraded to help them meet the numeric standards.

Also, state legislators have gotten involved. Rep. Marsha Looer (R) and Sen. Keith King (R) have cosponsored House Bill 12-1161, which would have the joint Interim Water Review Committee hold a public hearing on

the proposed nutrient standards. This committee would forward a recommendation to the state Legislature to vote on the Water Quality Control Commission's March decision.

As of this writing, according to Jim Kendrick of Monument Sanitation District and the Colorado Nutrient Coalition, who has been meeting with the bill's sponsors, the House bill has been approved by the House Agriculture, Livestock, and Natural Resources Committee and the House Appropriations Committee. Approval by the Senate Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Energy Committee is the next step. From there, the bill would go to the House and Senate for separate floor votes.

If approved by both, the bill would then be forwarded

to Hickenlooper, who would determine whether his executive order applies. If it does, then the state must find funding to pay for facilities' upgrades. If it does not apply, then residents of the state will have to foot the bill.

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See pages 15-22 for additional coverage of water and sanitation districts.

D-38 Bus Fee (Continued from page 1)

Members of the board made several comments before the vote:

- Board Vice President Mark Pfoff said that he never thought that he would support the fee, but has concluded that the choice is between a bus fee and eliminating teaching positions. State cuts in funding of schools are forcing the district to make this decision. The district is providing a service in exchange for the fee and parents have the choice of whether or not to participate.
- Board Treasurer Gail Wilson said that she, too, hesitated to support the measure in the context of a free education for all. However, she said that the district needed to consider what is best for the student. Use of bus fees, proposing a mill levy override, and using reserves are three options the board can use to restore positions and services that have been cut over the past few years. Having heard school improvement plans in District Accountability Advisory meetings, Wilson is concerned about the impact of lack of intervention and enrichment services in our schools at all levels. In addition, the number of special education students and those on free/reduced lunch is growing. She promised to help educate the public about the consequences of past and future cuts in the event a mill levy override is proposed.
- Board member John Mann said that the problems of the school district affect the entire community, and he is concerned that relatively few are being asked to pay the fee. He said that the growth in class sizes and

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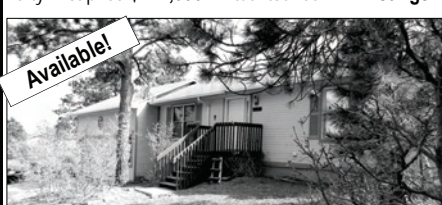
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