



ARKANSAS VALLEY CONDUIT MONTHLY REPORT

Thursday, September 17, 2026

This monthly newsletter summarizes activities related to the Arkansas Valley Conduit and is made available to the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District Board of Directors and Arkansas Valley Conduit stakeholders. To request a subscription to the Report, please contact info@secwcd.com or view it at <https://www.secwcd.org/>



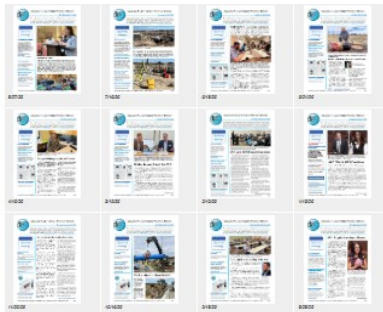
AVC Committee

The next meeting date has not been determined. Watch for the date on our Web site.

<https://www.secwcd.org/>

Want to learn more about the AVC?

If your organization would like a presentation on AVC, contact Chris Woodka, 719-289-0785 or email chris@secwcd.com



Read Past issues

To read past issues of the AVC Monthly Report, go to our Web site.

<https://www.secwcd.org/>



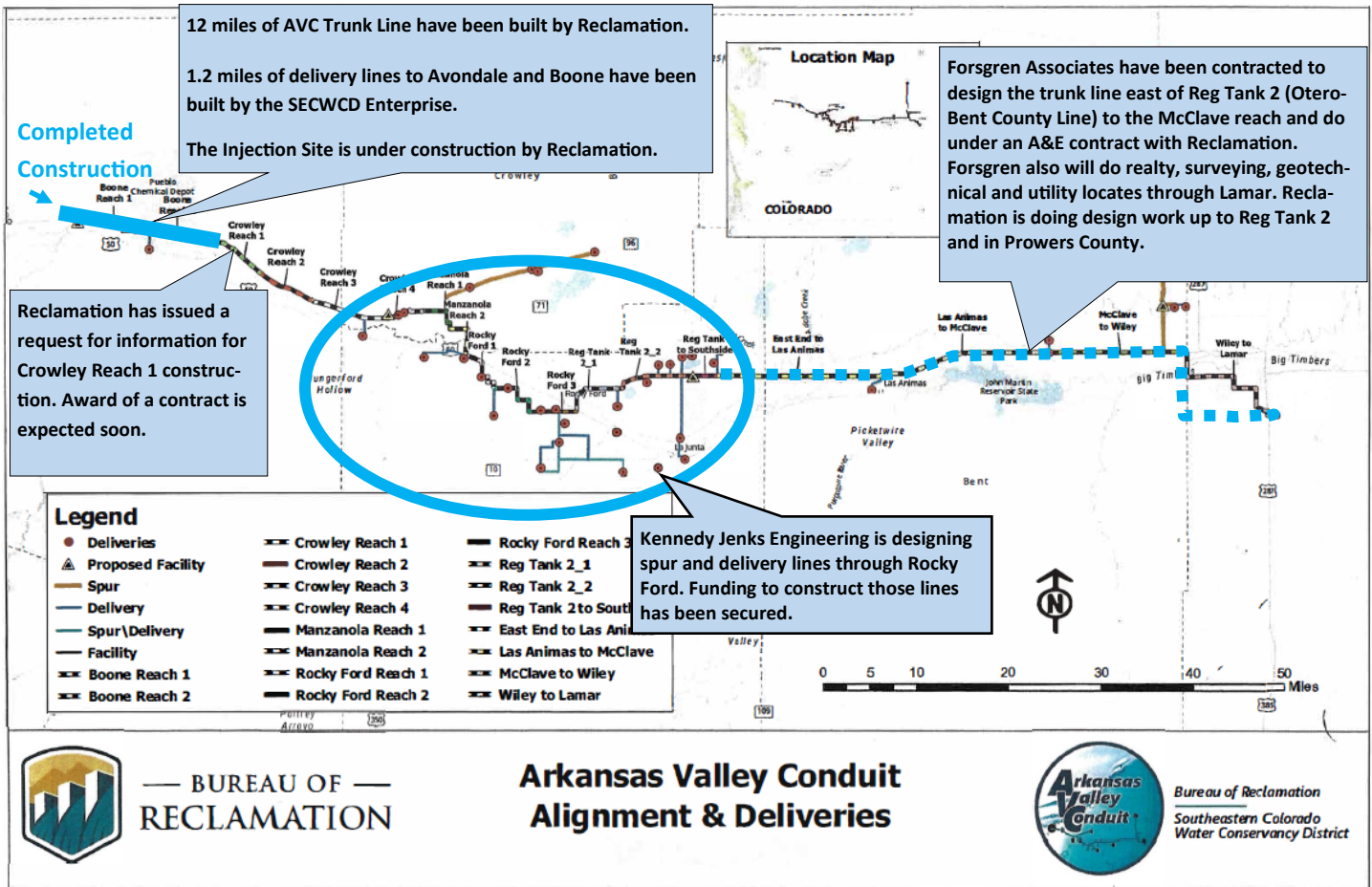
Injection Site Work Continues

Concrete forms are being installed at the Injection Site on U.S. Highway 50 about 10 miles east of Pueblo as part of the Arkansas Valley Conduit Reclamation Sub-Project. The plant will extract residual ammonia and chlorine from water treated and delivered through Pueblo Water's system, providing filtered water for AVC participants to the east. Thalle Construction Company is the lead contractor for the site.





AVC PROJECT UPDATE



Federal legislation still pending

Federal legislation to make the Arkansas Valley Conduit more affordable to participants has been included in the Water Resources Development Act now making its way through Congress.

After the veto of HR 131 by President Trump earlier this year, Colorado's delegation is attempting to gain passage through other routes.

The bill, introduced by Representative Lauren Boebert, increases the AVC repayment period and reduces the interest rate. The WRDA bill passed the House and is still pending in the Senate. (see attached news release).

Repayment Contract Negotiations

Representatives from the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District and the Bureau of Reclamation met on September 1, 2026, at District Headquarters to resume negotiations on the AVC Repayment Contract. Negotiations began in 2022, and were paused following the Revised Cost Estimates in 2024. At that time, the District wanted to assure miscellaneous revenues from the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project will be sufficient to repay the AVC participants' share of the federal debt, and legislation was introduced to accomplish that. The new contract encompasses that issues, as well as several construction and operational points. Reclamation and the District are now considering final wording of the Contract.

For Immediate Release

September 16, 2026

REP. BOEBERT: Arkansas Valley Conduit Included in Bipartisan WRDA as House Passes Bill on Suspension

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Rep. Lauren Boebert (R-CO) today welcomed House passage of the bipartisan Water Resources Development Act of 2026 (H.R. 9497) under suspension of the rules, with the Finish the Arkansas Valley Conduit provisions included for southeastern Colorado. This is the second time this Congress the House has advanced the AVC repayment language in a must-pass package, after the House included it in the Agriculture appropriations bill (H.R. 8646) this June.

“This is about clean water for families in the Arkansas Valley who have waited more than 60 years,” **Rep. Boebert** said. “The Arkansas Valley Conduit is the unfinished piece of the Fryingpan–Arkansas Project. Getting it in this bipartisan WRDA and across the House floor on suspension is a big step toward finishing the job.

”The conduit would serve more than 50,000 residents in 39 communities that still rely on groundwater with naturally occurring contaminants. The language adjusts the non-federal cost-share and repayment terms so rural districts can actually connect to the project.

“I am a legislator who never gives up, especially when it involves Colorado water. After working on this issue with House leaders for years, Chairman Graves understands what needs to be done to improve water access for Coloradans, and I thank him for working with me to put southeastern Colorado in WRDA and move it under suspension,” Rep. Boebert said.

The House-passed bill now heads to the Senate.