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Lamborn Lends Support to Over the River Project in Fremont County

Washington, March 17, 2009 – Congressman Doug Lamborn (CO-05) today announced his support for the “Over the River” project slated for the summer of 2012 in Fremont County.

The Congressman joins a growing list of supporters in Colorado who welcome the iconic work of artists Christo and Jeanne-Claude. The project entails suspending nearly six miles of silver-colored fabric over the Arkansas River between Cañon City and Salida, Colorado. The translucent fabric panels will be displayed for two weeks.

“Christo and Jeanne-Claude’s world famous art has the potential to draw hundreds of thousands of visitors to southern Colorado and enhance our state’s growing cultural prominence. This project will draw attention to the natural beauty of the Arkansas River and its surrounding communities.

“A recent study by an independent research group, BBC Research & Consulting, indicates the project may generate close to \$200 million in additional spending in Colorado.

“I recognize that a project of this size and scope is not without challenges to the local communities, in addition to the economic benefits.

“Also, federal agencies will need to move forward expeditiously with the environmental impact statement (EIS) and permitting process. It is significant that the artists themselves called for the EIS, showing their commitment to protecting the environment.

“I look forward to being of assistance in this project and consider it a privilege to have the chance to host Christo and Jeanne-Claude in my District.” -- Congressman Doug Lamborn (CO-05)

Congressman Lamborn met with Christo and Jeanne-Claude today in Washington, DC.

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