**Colorado Water Watch video script**

Pkg is available as nats only version or tracked reporter piece at <http://wp.me/p4y0bC-MW>

**In: 2 secs nats then “It’s a long way down…”**

**Out: “…doing damage to another**

**TRT 2:03**

**Supers:**

:08-:12 near Briggsdale/Weld County, Colorado

:13-:17 Dr. Ken Carlson/Colorado State University

:45-:49 Bill Ritter/Director – CSU Center for the New Energy Economy

1:04-1:09 Mike King/Exec. Director, Colorado Dept. of Natural Resources

(If using tracked pkg 1:53-1:58 reporting - Mike Hooker/Colorado State University)

**Suggested intro:**

 IN THE CONTROVERSY AROUND FRACKING FOR OIL AND GAS, AND WHETHER FRACKING AFFECTS WATER QUALITY, NOW YOU CAN GO ONLINE AND SEE WHAT RESEARCHERS ARE SEEING AT SEVERAL TEST SITES IN COLORADO.

 THERE’S A NEW TOOL – CREATED BY RESEARCHERS AT COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY - FOR THE PUBLIC TO KEEP AN EYE ON WATER TESTS AS THEY COME IN, STRAIGHT FROM THE FIELD.

**---(PKG/runs 2:03)---**

(NATS: OPENING LID)

IT A LONG WAY DOWN – 400 FEET BELOW THE SURFACE OF A FIELD IN WELD COUNTY – TO THE SENSOR THESE STUDENT RESEARCHERS ARE USING TO TAKE WATER READING.

(Ken Carlson)

:38 what we’re looking is one of the sampling sites that is monitoring the water quality in this field.

KEN CARLSON IS AN ENGINEERING PROFESSOR AT COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY, HELPING LEAD THE WATER WATCH PROJECT.

(NATS: WATER)

CLEAN WATER IS A CRITICAL RESOURCE IN COLORADO. IT’S THE CONCERN FOR WATER QUIALITY THAT DRIVES A LARGE PART OF THE DEBATE ABOUT FRACKING AT OIL AND GAS WELLS. THE WATER WATCH PROJECT WILL – FOR THE FIRST TIME – PROVIDE THE PUBLIC WITH REAL-TIME INFORAMTION ABOUT WATER QUALITY AT OIL AND GAS WELL SITES IN THE DENVER-JULESBURG BASIN.

(Bill Ritter/CSU Center for the New Energy Economy)

I don't know of any place in the country where you have an academic institution, energy players, environmental players -stake-holders, and regulators all at the same table and to do this in a fashion where everybody's interest are talked about.

(Mike King/Colo. Department of Natural Resources)

1:25 In this day and age There’s a tremendous amount of suspicion about government, about oil and gas development and we thought that bringing CSU on and participating would provide that level of objectivity that many in the public felt was lacking.

DR CARLSON AND HIS TEAM HAVE SPENT THE PAST 18 MONTHS DEVELOPING THE SENSOR SYSTEM – WHICH COLLECTS AND TRANSMITS WATER QUALITY DATA EVERY 30 MINUTES FROM EACH WELL SITE – AND DEVELOPING METHODS FOR CONVERTING THAT DATA INTO USEFUL INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC.

1:25 we’re looking at the data and using advanced algorithms to determine if there’s anything different about the water quality at this point in time.

1:51 then that would trigger us to come out here and open the well, pull a sample, and do a very in-depth analysis of what has changed and then respond accordingly.

CARLSON SAYS MOST IMPORTANTLY THIS IS UNBIASED SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH – TO HELP COLORADO MAKE GOOD DECISIONS ON THE CRITICAL ISSUE OF HOW TO EXTRACT ONE RESOURCE WITHOUT DOING DAMAGE TO ANOTHER.