

No. 141, Original

---

**In the**  
**SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES**

---

STATE OF TEXAS,

Plaintiff,

v.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO and

STATE OF COLORADO,

Defendants,

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Intervenor.

---

**O R D E R**

On June 17 and 18 of this year, the undersigned participated in a tour of the Lower Rio Grande Basin which provided me an opportunity to view not only the surface waters of the river itself but also various components of the Rio Grande Project's infrastructure, including Elephant Butte, Caballo, American, and International Dams, as well as the El Paso Gage. The Special Master also heard from

several farmers who rely on Rio Grande water to irrigate their crops. The tour was organized by representatives of the parties to the above-captioned litigation and their counsel, many of whom also participated in the tour. Certain of the amici in this case likewise joined the two-day tour. The Mediator, Judge Arthur Boylan, participated as well.\*

As memorialized in the Special Master’s May 16, 2025 order, the parties have reached a settlement in principle. That order scheduled a hearing on the parties’ forthcoming motions related to settlement to commence “as soon as possible after September 18 and 19, 2025.” ECF No. 46 ¶ 4. Accordingly, it is hereby

ORDERED that a hearing on motions related to settlement shall be held during the week of September 29, 2025, at a location to be determined as soon as possible and announced by way of a subsequent order.

By order dated this 27<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025:

s/D. Brooks Smith  
Honorable D. Brooks Smith  
Special Master  
United States Circuit Judge  
1798 Plank Road, Suite 203  
Duncansville, PA 16635  
Tel: 814-693-0570  
[chambers\\_of\\_judge\\_d\\_brooks\\_smith@ca3.uscourts.gov](mailto:chambers_of_judge_d_brooks_smith@ca3.uscourts.gov)

---

\* I express my appreciation to all who organized and carried out the tour and also to those who provided informative narrations which allowed me to observe in real time the hydrological and irrigation systems that are at the heart of this 12-year dispute.