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DOCUMENTS

HEARING

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BEFORE THE

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON

WATER AND POWER RESOURCES

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON

INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

UNITED STATES SENATE

NINETY-FIRST CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

ON

S. 3428 and H.R. 9854

BILLS TO AUTHORIZE THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN THE EAST GREEN-
ACRES UNIT, RATHDRUM PRAIRIE PROJECT, IDAHO



MAY 21, 1970



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WASHINGTON : 1970

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CONTENTS

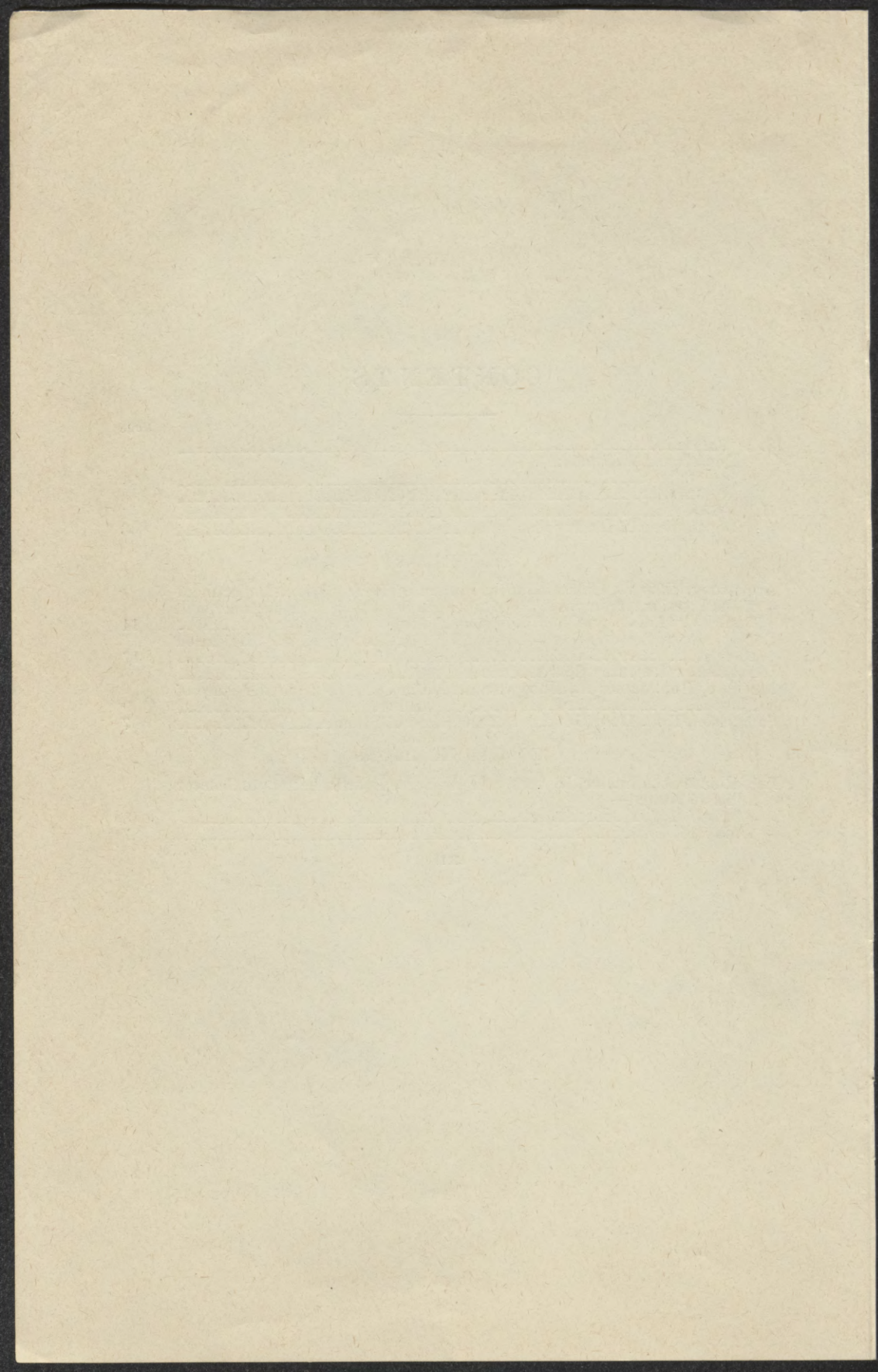
	Page
S. 3428.....	2
Departmental reports:	
Budget.....	4
Interior.....	3
H.R. 9854.....	4
Department of the Interior report.....	6

STATEMENTS

Armstrong, Ellis L., Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior, accompanied by Rupert B. Spearman, area engineer, and Daniel V. McCarthy, Chief, Division of Project Development.....	11
Bodine, Leroy, representing board of directors, East Greenacres Irrigation District.....	17
Idaho Water Resource Board.....	8
McClure, Hon. James A., a Representative in Congress from the State of Idaho.....	9
Samuelson, Hon. Don, Governor of the State of Idaho.....	7

COMMUNICATIONS

Lee, Robert R., director, Idaho Water Resource Board: Letters to Senator Anderson, dated—	
May 7, 1970.....	8
May 15, 1970.....	7



EAST GREENACRES UNIT

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1970

U.S. SENATE,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER RESOURCES
OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 10:05 a.m. in room 3110, New Senate Office Building, Senator Clinton P. Anderson presiding.

Present: Senators Anderson, Church, and Jordan.

Also present: Charles Cook, minority counsel; Daniel A. Dreyfus and Porter Ward, professional staff members.

Senator CHURCH. While we are waiting for Senator Anderson to arrive, I think we might just as well begin the hearing.

This hearing is for the purpose of considering the last Greenacres unit of the Rathdrum Prairie project, which offers an opportunity to provide outstanding multiple-purpose benefits to the project area in northern Idaho. It will provide irrigation water to more than 5,000 acres, about 1,800 acres of which are presently irrigated but with insufficient supplies.

Domestic and livestock water use will also be provided. I think it also important that the development will eliminate the use of Twin Lakes, the present source of water for the East Greenacres District, through deep wells, elevated reservoirs and buried pipelines. Fish and wildlife conservation and public recreation benefits will result at Twin Lakes through stabilization of the water levels.

Another important benefit from the development will be sprinkler irrigation through a pressure distribution system, a much more effective method on this land than flood irrigation.

I understand the total construction cost of the project, at January 1969 price levels, has been placed at \$4,965,000.

Mr. Chairman, this is a needed project to keep small farm units in operation, and I hope we can give it early approval.

Senator Jordan.

Senator JORDAN. Mr. Chairman, Senator Church and I join in sponsoring S. 3428, a bill to authorize the construction and operation of the East Greenacres unit of the Rathdrum Prairie reclamation project.

This proposed multipurpose water resource development in northwestern Idaho will provide supplemental irrigation water to 1,770 acres now inadequately supplied, and will serve 3,500 acres which are not now irrigated. Other potential benefits include provision of a domestic and stock water supply, enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat, and improved facilities for public recreation.

A similar bill, H. R. 9854, introduced by our colleague, Jim McClure, who is here this morning, passed the House April 20, without opposition.

This proposal has the unanimous support of the Idaho Water Resource Board, the State's water planning and development agency. The board found that the development would alleviate an existing and serious conflict between recreational and irrigation use of Twin Lakes water, and also would provide a significant economic stimulus to Kootenai County and the State of Idaho.

Answers to questions on these local and State aspects of this development can be answered today by a water-user from the area who is here as a witness. He is Mr. LeRoy Bodine of Post Falls, Idaho, a former board member of the East Greenacres Irrigation District and a lifelong resident of the area.

The project also is endorsed by Governor Don Samuelson, who reported that the proposed development has widespread support in Idaho.

A copy of S. 3428, H. R. 9854, and departmental reports will be included in the record.

Statements were submitted by the Governor and the Idaho Water Resource Board and I move that they appear in the record following these remarks and those of my colleague, Mr. Church.

Senator ANDERSON. Without objection, it will be so done.

(The material referred to follows:)

[S. 3428, 91st Cong., second sess.]

A BILL To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct, operate, and maintain the East Greenacres unit, Rathdrum Prairie project, Idaho, and for other purposes

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, for the purposes of providing irrigation water supplies, providing municipal and industrial water, the conservation and enhancement of fish and wildlife resources, and the enhancement of recreation opportunities, the Secretary of the Interior, acting pursuant to the Federal reclamation laws (Act of June 17, 1902; 32 Stat. 388, and Acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto), is authorized to construct, operate, and maintain the East Greenacres unit, Rathdrum Prairie project, Idaho. The principal works of the unit shall consist of wells, regulating reservoirs, the necessary water distribution systems, and related works.

SEC. 2. Irrigation repayment contracts shall provide for repayment of the irrigation construction costs assigned to the irrigators for repayment over a period of not more than fifty years, exclusive of any development period authorized by law. Construction costs allocated to irrigation beyond the ability of irrigators to repay shall be charged to and returned to the reclamation fund in accordance with the provisions of section 2 of the Act of June 14, 1966 (80 Stat. 200), as amended by section 6 of the Act of September 7, 1966 (80 Stat. 707).

SEC. 3. The provision of lands, facilities, and project modifications which furnish outdoor recreation and fish and wildlife benefits in connection with the East Greenacres unit shall be in accordance with the Federal Water Project Recreation Act (79 Stat. 213).

SEC. 4. Power and energy required for irrigation water pumping for the East Greenacres unit shall be made available by the Secretary from the Federal Columbia River power system at charges determined by him.

SEC. 5. The interest rate used for purposes of computing interest during construction and, where appropriate, interest on the unpaid balance of the reimbursable obligations assumed by non-Federal entities shall be determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, as of the beginning of the fiscal year in which construction is initiated, on the basis of the computed average interest rate payable by the Treasury upon its outstanding marketable public obligations which are neither due nor callable for redemption for fifteen years from date of issue.

SEC. 6. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated for construction of the works herein authorized and for the acquisition of necessary land and rights the sum of \$4,965,000 (January 1969 prices), plus or minus such amounts, if any, as may be required by reason of changes in the cost of construction work of the types involved therein as shown by engineering cost indexes. There are also authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be required for the operation and maintenance of said unit.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D.C., Apr. 22, 1970.

Hon. HENRY M. JACKSON,
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This responds to your request for the views of this Department on S. 3428, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct, operate, and maintain the East Greenacres unit, Rathdrum Prairie project, Idaho, and for other purposes.

We recommend that the bill be enacted with the amendment described herein.

The bill would authorize the Secretary to construct, maintain and operate the East Greenacres unit, Rathdrum Prairie project, Idaho, a proposed multiple-purpose water resource development involving irrigation, municipal, and industrial water supplies, and the enhancement of outdoor recreation opportunities and fish and wildlife resources. It is located near the city of Post Falls in the panhandle area of northern Idaho.

The feasibility report on the East Greenacres unit was transmitted to the Congress by the Secretary on October 16, 1969, with his recommendation that construction of the unit be authorized as set forth in the report. On October 24 the Subcommittee on Irrigation and Reclamation of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs held a field hearing on the bill in Spokane, Washington.

About 1,770 acres of land are now irrigated from a surface water system supplied from storage in Twin Lakes. Twin Lakes is used extensively for recreation and fishing, and its operation for water supply requires drawdowns which have prompted controversy and court actions. Judicial decisions now strictly curtail the extent of such fluctuations of the water surface.

The service area is underlain by an abundant ground water aquifer. We propose to build a new water supply system based on ground water pumping and a closed pipe pressure distribution system. This would provide irrigation water to 5,270 acres of land and municipal and industrial water as needed for the growing population and commercial establishments in the area. By providing this alternative source of water supply, the demands on Twin Lakes water would be alleviated and substantial benefits would accrue through further development of outdoor recreation opportunities and the enhancement of the fishery resource.

The plan of development for the East Greenacres unit contemplates the use of surplus revenues from sale of municipal and industrial water to assist in the repayment of irrigation reimbursable costs. The bill does not provide specific authority to do this, and we do not have general authority. Therefore, we recommend the following amendments to the bill:

1. Change section 2 to section 2(a), change the period at the end thereof to a comma, and add the following language thereto:

"and from surplus municipal and industrial water revenues as provided by subsection 2(b) of this Act."

2. Add a subsection (b) after section 2(a) as follows:

"(b) Municipal and industrial repayment contracts shall provide for repayment of the construction costs allocated to municipal and industrial water supply, with interest, by the municipal and industrial water users over a period of not more than fifty years from the date that water is first delivered for that purpose, pursuant to contracts with municipal corporations, organizations, or other entities as defined in section 2(g) of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (53 Stat. 1187): *Provided*, That contracts for municipal and industrial water service shall provide that annual payments shall continue at the same rates as long as the irrigation repayment contracts are in effect: *Provided further*, That revenues in excess of those required to repay the allocated municipal and industrial water supply costs with interest and the portion of the annual operation, maintenance, and replacement costs allocated to

municipal and industrial water supply shall be returned to the reclamation fund and credited toward the repayment of the construction costs allocated to irrigation which are beyond the ability of the irrigators to repay. Such contracts may be entered into with a qualified entity

or entities pursuant to the provision of this Act without regard to the last sentence of subsection 9(c) of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939, *supra*, and shall be precedent to the commencement of construction of the unit."

3. Renumber section 5 of the bill as subsection 2(c) and add it to the amended section 2.

4. Renumber section 6 as section 5.

The estimated construction cost of the proposed new works is \$4,965,000 at January 1969 prices. This is the amount authorized in section 6 of the bill. The costs allocated to irrigation, \$4,477,000, are reimbursable without interest under reclamation law. Water users would be able to repay \$805,500 of this amount over a 50-year period and the remainder, \$3,671,500, would be derived from surplus municipal and industrial revenues and from Federal Columbia River Power System revenues. Municipal and industrial allocated costs of \$150,000 would be repaid, with interest, by the water users. Costs allocated to the functions of recreation and fish and wildlife enhancement, \$338,000, are to be shared, in accordance with the Federal Water Project Recreation Act, by Kootenai County which has expressed its intent to repay, with interest, \$16,000, which is, half of the specific costs of recreation development. The remainder, \$322,000 would be a nonreimbursable Federal cost.

An economic analysis of the benefits and costs attributable to the East Greenacres unit, using the currently prescribed interest rate of 4½ percent and a 100-year period of analysis, reveals that the direct benefits will exceed the costs in the ratio of 1.05 to 1.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES R. SMITH,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET,
Washington, D.C., April 22, 1970.

HON. HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs
U.S. Senate, Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in response to your letter of April 7, 1970, requesting the views of the Bureau of the Budget on S. 3428, a bill "To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct, operate, and maintain the East Greenacres unit, Rathdrum Prairie project, Idaho, and for other purposes."

The purpose of the bill is stated in its title.

The Department of the Interior is transmitting a separate report to your Committee in which it recommends enactment of the bill provided certain amendments are made.

The Bureau of the Budget concurs in the views of the Department of the Interior, and accordingly would have no objection to enactment of this legislation if amended as recommended in the report of the Department of the Interior.

Sincerely,

WILFRED H. ROMMEL,
Assistant Director for Legislative Reference.

[H.R. 9854, 91st Cong., second sess.]

AN ACT To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct, operate, and maintain the East Greenacres unit, Rathdrum Prairie project, Idaho, and for other purposes

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, for the purposes of providing irrigation water supplies, providing municipal and industrial water, the conservation and enhance-

ment of fish and wildlife resources, and the enhancement of recreation opportunities, the Secretary of the Interior, acting pursuant to the Federal reclamation laws (Act of June 17, 1902; 32 Stat. 388, and Acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto), is authorized to construct, operate, and maintain the East Greenacres unit, Rathdrum Prairie project, Idaho. The principal works of the unit shall consist of wells, regulating reservoirs, the necessary water distribution systems, and related works.

SEC. 2. (a) Irrigation repayment contracts shall provide for repayment of the irrigation construction costs assigned to the irrigators for repayment over a period of not more than fifty years, exclusive of any development period authorized by law. Construction costs allocated to irrigation beyond the ability of irrigators to repay shall be charged to and returned to the reclamation fund in accordance with the provisions of section 2 of the Act of June 14, 1966 (80 Stat. 200), as amended by section 6 of the Act of September 7, 1966 (80 Stat. 707), and from surplus municipal and industrial water revenues as provided by subsection 2(b) of this Act.

(b) Municipal and industrial repayment contracts shall provide for repayment of the construction costs allocated to municipal and industrial water supply, with interest, by the municipal and industrial water users over a period of not more than fifty years from the date that water is first delivered for that purpose, pursuant to contracts with municipal corporations, organizations, or other entities as defined in section 2(g) of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (53 Stat. 1187): *Provided*, That contracts for municipal and industrial water service shall provide that annual payments shall continue at the same rates as long as the irrigation repayment contracts are in effect: *Provided further*, That revenues in excess of those required to repay the allocated municipal and industrial water supply costs with interest and the portion of the annual operation, maintenance, and replacement costs allocated to municipal and industrial water supply shall be returned to the reclamation fund and credited toward the repayment of the construction costs allocated to irrigation which are beyond the ability of the irrigators to repay. Such contracts may be entered into with a qualified entity or entities pursuant to the provision of this Act without regard to the last sentence of subsection 9(c) of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939, *supra*, and shall be executed before the commencement of construction of the unit.

(c) The interest rate used for purposes of computing interest during construction and, where appropriate, interest on the unpaid balance of the reimbursable obligations assumed by non-Federal entities shall be determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, as of the beginning of the fiscal year in which construction is initiated, on the basis of the computed average interest rate payable by the Treasury upon its outstanding marketable public obligations which are neither due nor callable for redemption for fifteen years from date of issue.

SEC. 3. The provision of lands, facilities, and project modifications which furnish outdoor recreation and fish and wildlife benefits in connection with the East Greenacres unit shall be in accordance with the Federal Water Project Recreation Act (79 Stat. 213).

SEC. 4. Power and energy required for irrigation water pumping for the East Greenacres unit shall be made available by the Secretary from the Federal Columbia River power system at charges determined by him.

SEC. 5. For a period of ten years from the date of enactment of this Act, no water from the project authorized by this Act shall be delivered to any water user for the production on newly irrigated lands of any basic agricultural commodity as defined in the Agricultural Act of 1949, or any amendment thereof, if the total supply of such commodity for the marketing year in which the bulk of the crop would normally be marketed is in excess of the normal supply as defined in section 301(b)(10) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, unless the Secretary of Agriculture calls for an increase in production of such commodity in the interest of national security.

SEC. 6. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated for construction of the works herein authorized and for the acquisition of necessary land and rights the sum of \$4,965,000 (January 1969 prices), plus or minus such amounts, if any, as may be required by reason of changes in the cost of construction work of the types involved therein as shown by engineering cost indexes. There are also authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be required for the operation and maintenance of said unit.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D.C., March 17, 1970.

HON. WAYNE N. ASPINALL,
Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This responds to your request for the views of this Department on H.R. 9854, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct, operate, and maintain the East Greenacres unit, Rathdrum Prairie project, Idaho, and for other purposes.

We recommend that the bill be enacted with the amendment described herein.

The bill would authorize the Secretary to construct, maintain, and operate the East Greenacres unit, Rathdrum Prairie project, Idaho, a proposed multiple-purpose water resource development involving irrigation, municipal and industrial water supplies, and the enhancement of outdoor recreation opportunities and fish and wildlife resources. It is located near the city of Post Falls in the panhandle area of northern Idaho.

The feasibility report on the East Greenacres unit was transmitted to the Congress by the Secretary on October 16, 1969, with his recommendation that construction of the unit be authorized as set forth in the report. On October 24 the Subcommittee on Irrigation and Reclamation of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs held a field hearing on the bill in Spokane, Wash.

About 1,770 acres of land are now irrigated from a surface water system supplied from storage in Twin Lakes. Twin Lakes is used extensively for recreation and fishing, and its operation for water supply requires drawdowns which have prompted controversy and court actions. Judicial decisions now strictly curtail the extent of such fluctuations of the water surface.

The service area is underlain by an abundant ground water aquifer. We propose to build a new water supply system based on ground water pumping and a closed pipe pressure distribution system. This would provide irrigation water to 5,270 acres of land and municipal and industrial water as needed for the growing population and commercial establishments in the area. By providing this alternative source of water supply, the demands on Twin Lakes water would be alleviated and substantial benefits would accrue through further development of outdoor recreation opportunities and the enhancement of the fishery resource.

The plan of development for the East Greenacres unit contemplates the use of surplus revenues from sale of municipal and industrial water to assist in the repayment of irrigation reimbursable costs. The bill does not provide specific authority to do this, and we do not have general authority. Therefore, we recommend the following amendments to the bill:

1. Change "SEC. 2" to "SEC. 2. (a)", change the period at the end thereof to a comma, and add the following language thereto: "and from surplus municipal and industrial water revenues as provided by subsection 2(b) of this Act."

2. Add a subsection (b) after section 2(a) as follows:

"(b) Municipal and industrial repayment contracts shall provide for repayment of the construction costs allocated to municipal and industrial water supply, with interest, by the municipal and industrial water users over a period of not more than fifty years from the date that water is first delivered for that purpose, pursuant to contracts with municipal corporations, organizations, or other entities as defined in section 2(g) of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (53 Stat. 1187): *Provided*, That contracts for municipal and industrial water service shall provide that annual payments shall continue at the same rates as long as the irrigation repayment contracts are in effect: *Provided further*, That revenues in excess of those required to repay the allocated municipal and industrial water supply costs with interest and the portion of the annual operation, maintenance, and replacement costs allocated to municipal and industrial water supply shall be returned to the reclamation fund and credited toward the repayment of the construction costs allocated to irrigation which are beyond the ability of the irrigators to repay. Such contracts may be entered into with a qualified entity or entities pursuant to the provision of this Act without regard to the last sentence of subsection 9(c) of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939, supra, and shall be precedent to the commencement of construction of the unit."

3. Renumber section 5 of the bill as subsection 2(c) and add it to the amended section 2.

4. Renumber section 6 as section 5.

The estimated construction cost of the proposed new works is \$4,965,000 at January 1969 prices. The costs allocated to irrigation, \$4,477,000, are reimbursable without interest under reclamation law. Water users would be able to repay

\$805,500 of this amount over a 50-year period and the remainder, \$3,671,500, would be derived from surplus municipal and industrial revenues and from Federal Columbia River power system revenues. Municipal and industrial allocated costs of \$150,000 would be repaid, with interest, by the water users. Costs allocated to the functions of recreation and fish and wildlife enhancement, \$338,000, are to be shared, in accordance with the Federal Water Project Recreation Act, by Kootenai County which has expressed its intent to repay, with interest, \$16,000, which is half of the specific costs of recreation development. The remainder, \$322,000, would be a nonreimbursable Federal cost.

An economic analysis of the benefits and costs attributable to the East Greenacres unit, using the currently prescribed interest rate of 4% percent and a 100-year period of analysis, reveals that the direct benefits will exceed the costs in the ratio of 1.05 to 1.

The subject bill will provide the authority needed by the Secretary to build the unit as contemplated in his feasibility report. However, section 6 provides a limitation of appropriations based upon 1964 prices. We recommend that line 11, page 3 of the bill, be amended to read as follows: "\$4,965,000 (January 1969 prices), plus or minus such amounts."

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the administration's program.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES R. SMITH,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

STATE OF IDAHO,
IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD,
Boise, Idaho, May 15, 1970.

Senator CLINTON P. ANDERSON,
Chairman, Senate Subcommittee on Water and Power Resources, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR ANDERSON: Enclosed is the signed statement of Don Samuelson, Governor of Idaho, in which he supports the proposed East Greenacres Unit of the Rathdrum Prairie Project in North Idaho.

We request that this statement be considered as part of the record.

Sincerely yours,

ROBERT R. LEE,
Director.

Enclosures.

STATEMENT OF HON. DON SAMUELSON, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE
OF IDAHO

As Governor of the State of Idaho, I support the East Greenacres Project. It pleases me to see development of the resource potential of Idaho for the welfare of our people, whether this development is private, state, or federally sponsored. I am especially pleased to endorse the East Greenacres development proposal, since it not only converts presently unirrigated land to more productive irrigated land, but also alleviates a crisis in Kootenai County. Recent court action limiting drawdown of Twin Lakes could have a large detrimental effect on the citizens of Kootenai County who depend on Twin Lakes water for crop irrigation. On January 23, 1969, the Idaho First District Court limited the drawdown of Twin Lakes to four feet. Although this limitation will benefit the Twin Lakes recreation users, it places a severe restraint on the East Greenacres Irrigation District. However, the proposed project will provide for the satisfaction of both recreation and irrigation uses and increase the amount of irrigated land by 3,460 acres.

The project has widespread support in Idaho. This proposal has been reviewed by the Idaho State Reclamation Engineer, who conducted a hearing concerning the project at Coeur d' Alene, Idaho, September 5, 1967, to gain public views and comments. No one appeared at the hearing in opposition to the project. It has also been considered by the Idaho Water Resource Board, the Constitutional water agency in Idaho which has the responsibility for formulation of a State Water Plan. On September 15, 1967, the Board expressed unanimous endorsement of the project. This was reaffirmed on February 12, 1969. In a letter to the Honorable Stewart L. Udall, dated October 3, 1967, I asked for a favorable report on this project to the Bureau of the Budget and the Congress hoping that it would receive early authorization.

I again hereby add my official and personal support to this worthwhile project.

STATE OF IDAHO,
IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD,
Boise, Idaho, May 7, 1970.

Senator CLINTON P. ANDERSON,
Chairman, Senate Subcommittee on Water and Power Resources, New Senate Office
Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR ANDERSON: Attached is the statement of the Idaho Water Resource Board approving the proposed East Greenacres Unit of the Rathdrum Prairie Project in North Idaho.

I am sorry we cannot attend the Subcommittee Hearing on May 21, 1970, to present our statement in person. We hope the Idaho Water Resource Board's statement will be included as a part of your Committee hearing records.

Sincerely yours,

ROBERT R. LEE,
Director.

STATEMENT OF IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

This statement documents the unanimous support of the Idaho Water Resource Board, the State's water planning and development agency, for the East Greenacres Unit of the Rathdrum Prairie Project. The proposed development will irrigate 3,460 acres of land which are presently not irrigated but which are suitable for irrigation and will provide a supplemental water supply for 1,770 acres which presently have an inadequate supply. This development will provide a significant economic stimulus to Kootenai County and the State of Idaho.

The project will also alleviate an existing, and serious, conflict between the recreation use of Twin Lakes and irrigation use of the Twin Lakes water. The Idaho First District Court ruled on January 23, 1969, that the drawdown of Twin Lakes could not exceed four (4.0) feet, which is a serious limitation on an irrigation system which is already limited by the natural supply of surface water available. The proposed development taps the very productive Rathdrum Prairie groundwater aquifer, thereby alleviating the pressure on the inadequate surface supply. Without the project, serious limitations of crop production and income to the people depending on the irrigation system could result in the very near future.

The following Idaho Water Resource Board resolutions support the project. The first was passed on September 15, 1967.

"Be it resolved that the Idaho Water Resource Board endorses the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation sponsorship of the East Greenacres Unit of the Rathdrum Prairie Project and supports construction of the project."

The second resolution, which was passed on February 12, 1969, and which reaffirmed support, demonstrates the Board's interest in the project being approved and funded as soon as possible.

"Be it resolved that the Idaho Water Resource Board does reaffirm its desire for the early construction and completion of water development projects and wishes to inform the Idaho Congressional Delegation of the importance to the State of Idaho of the early completion of the East Greenacres Unit of the Rathdrum Prairie Project, Idaho Prairie Division, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Region I."

The Idaho Water Resource Board respectfully requests that the East Greenacres Unit receive favorable consideration by Congress.

Senator JORDAN. Mr. Chairman, I also move that letters and testimony in support of the proposed East Greenacres development which were reproduced in part I of the House hearing record on H.R. 9854 be incorporated by reference as a part of this hearing.

Senator ANDERSON. Without objection, that will be done.

Senator JORDAN. Mr. Chairman, the feasibility report of this proposed reclamation unit demonstrates that it is highly feasible, with a favorable benefit-to-cost ratio of 1.55 to 1. I join my colleague in urging favorable action by this subcommittee.

Senator ANDERSON. Congressman McClure.

Mr. McClure. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With your permission, I would like to submit my statement, and ask that it be placed in the record in full as if read, at this point.

Senator ANDERSON. Without objection, it will be done.

STATEMENT OF HON. JAMES A. McCLURE, A REPRESENTATIVE IN
CONGRESS FROM THE FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF THE
STATE OF IDAHO

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to appear here today. I am the author of the bill before you, H.R. 9854, and I am a member of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs which handled the measure on the other side of the Capitol. Field hearings were conducted in Coeur d'Alene on October 24. Further hearings were held in Washington March 19 of this year. The bill was reported April 8 and passed the House April 20. At no time—either in committee or on the House floor—was there any opposition to the proposal.

The East Greenacres unit of the Rathdrum Prairie project is a small one by ordinary standards. It is also somewhat different from the usual reclamation project, but it is by no means unique—its features are essentially similar to others located to the west in Washington and to the east in Idaho.

The unit is located in Kootenai County near the community of Post Falls. The present irrigation system consists of 1,539 acres irrigated by gravity flow from Twin Lakes, a distance of about 10 miles. There is a tremendous loss of water since it flows this distance in an open canal, which is obsolete in the first place. The cost of putting the present system in order would be prohibitive. It was built around the turn of the century for flood irrigation. However, the land in this area does not adapt itself to efficient flood irrigation and the water supply is inadequate.

Another problem stems from the development of Twin Lakes for recreation and fishing, and the property owners there quite naturally object to the heavy use of the water in the lakes for irrigation purposes. Litigation developed, and on January 23, 1969 the Idaho First District Court ruled that the water level cannot be lowered below 6.4 feet (a maximum drawdown of 4 feet)—a position usually reached in July. This ruling effectively cuts off water supplies to the farmers at the time they need it the most.

The initial decisions have been adverse to the irrigators. The case was heard by the Idaho Supreme Court May 8 and the forthcoming decision may spell disaster to these folks. Without water, their crops will not mature and the farm enterprises that have been built so laboriously will fail. This court action has been going on since 1961 but is nearing an end—an end of disastrous import to those who have been using this water. The project before us would replace that water source by pumping ground water from the Rathdrum Prairie aquifer. Without the East Greenacres unit, serious limitations on crop production and income to those who depend upon the present system could result in the very near future.

Kootenai County is semiarid with practically no rainfall during summer months. With water, the land can be very productive. According to Arthur H. Goeke, chairman of the East Greenacres Irrigation District, winter wheat and one crop of alfalfa hay is all that dry-land farming will produce. But with sufficient water and added acreage to the system, three crops of alfalfa hay can be harvested. There can be a conversion of land from wheat production to diversified farming, as well as raising grass seed and row crops.

The system is also needed to provide domestic water to some who do not have adequate supplies.

The lands involved are on the edge of the expanding Spokane metropolitan area. Population pressures are crowding in and a dependable potable water supply is urgently needed. The well and closed pipe pressure system contemplated will serve this need and provide domestic and industrial water supplies as well as replacing the outmoded, insufficient, and inadequate irrigation system now in use.

By eliminating the farmer's present dependence upon Twin Lakes, the recreation potential is vastly increased. Stabilizing the lake will increase the production of fish.

The Kootenai County commissioners have noted another benefit. The project will ultimately increase the assessed value of the area and thereby improve the tax base. It is perhaps significant to note that Post Falls School District has the second lowest ratio of assessed valuation to student enrollment in the State, with \$3,061 of assessed valuation per student enrolled as compared to \$24,204 of assessed valuation per student for the highest ratio in the State.

I think it is worth noting that the East Greenacres was the first reclamation project report sent to Congress in more than 18 months. The backlog in the pipeline is due to the fact that many of the pending projects cannot meet rigid tests now being required. They await a broadening of the benefit criteria. It is very significant to me that East Greenacres did not have to wait for a relaxation of the standards. Furthermore, because of the action of the courts, there is now a sense of urgency about the bill.

The fact that this is the first report to be sent to Congress in 2 years—the fact that it survived recomputation with currently used interest rates (and without the EDA benefits originally included)—the fact that it has unanimous support of local interests and, the fact that it cleared the House without even so much as one word in opposition—all of these combine to recommend the project. But its immediacy is born of the vital necessity of maintaining existing farm units, and strengthening those units by permitting expanded production on lands that have not had any available water supply.

By any and all tests this is a good project. I urge your support.

Mr. McCURE. I cannot add much to what has been said in my full statement. I just want to underscore a couple of things that have not been mentioned by my colleagues in the Senate. I want to underscore for the committee that there has been no opposition from any quarters, at any time, concerning this project, and where you are involving a change of water use from one to another it is very unique and unusual that there has not been some protest at the local level. But the county commissioners of Kootenai County, as well as the water users in the Twin Lakes area, the State officials, and all of the witnesses appearing before us in the field hearings, as well as the hearing here in Washington, have been in favor of this project. It is perhaps unique in that respect.

I want to underscore just one other thing, and that is the court case which is now pending before the Supreme Court of Idaho, prohibiting the water users from continuing to use as much of the water of Twin Lakes as they have used in the past. This hearing before the Supreme Court in Idaho is almost at its conclusion. And following that, they will be short of water by the end of July in any of the normal dry years,

which we experience in that area. This will be a substantial reduction in their ability to provide crops to sustain the farming operations that are underway and they are faced with a very real crisis as a result of this irrigation.

One other thing I would like to point out, this does bring new land into production. It provides a new water supply in place of the water supply which they will be losing in Twin Lakes. It will provide supplemental water for some lands which are now inadequately irrigated and it will provide water for lands not now irrigated, which will permit them to shift from dry land production into a more intensive agriculture. But there will be no virgin lands brought in. All of the land is now being cultivated.

One other point which has raised some questions and I think needs some explanation is the use of the system for domestic water. This is a closed pipe pressure system designed primarily for irrigation. However, the water supply is potable, it can be supplied to them for use as domestic water and it seemed reasonable that, under those circumstances, provision be made for domestic water use from this irrigation system and those provisions have been made, which is of very great benefit to the people in the area.

Senator ANDERSON. At a higher rate?

Mr. McCLURE. Yes; they would be at a higher rate. I think there is a minimum charge.

Senator ANDERSON. A reasonable rate?

Mr. McCLURE. I believe it is a reasonable rate, Mr. Chairman.

Senator ANDERSON. Thank you very much for your statement.

Mr. McCLURE. Thank you.

Senator ANDERSON. Mr. Armstrong.

STATEMENT OF ELLIS L. ARMSTRONG, COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ACCOMPANIED BY RUPERT B. SPEARMAN, AREA ENGINEER, AND DANIEL V. MCCARTHY, CHIEF, DIVISION OF PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Mr. Chairman, I have with me this morning Mr. Rupert B. Spearman, the area engineer from the project area, and Mr. Daniel V. McCarthy, who is chief of our Division of Project Development.

Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee, we are pleased to appear in support of legislation to authorize the construction of the proposed East Greenacres Unit, Rathdrum Prairie project. The Secretary's feasibility report on the unit was sent to the Congress on October 16, 1969, and has been printed as House Document 91-182.

Senator ANDERSON. Was there some development in 1947?

Mr. SPEARMAN. In the Dalton Garden and Avondale.

Senator ANDERSON. That is a long time back.

Senator CHURCH. You have been following this for a long while, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. The Department's April 22 report to the committee presents our views as cleared with the Bureau of the Budget on S. 3428, and recommends enactment of the measure with the same clarifying amendments as were adopted by the House of Representatives for the companion bill, H. R. 9854. The first of the amendments

would provide authority to use municipal and industrial water revenues to assist in repayment of the irrigation construction costs and would permit repayment contracts to be executed accordingly. The second proposed amendment would adjust the amount and price base for the limitation of funds authorized to be appropriated. And I note that S. 3428 does include the January 1969 prices. The House also adopted language designed to restrict for 10 years the production of agricultural surplus commodities on unit lands. We do not object to that restriction.

The East Greenacres unit is located in northern Idaho in Kootenai County near Spokane, Wash. The unit was formulated primarily as a rescue operation to assist the existing East Greenacres Irrigation District in solving a difficult water supply problem and to modernize the district's distribution system which is both inefficient and outworn.

The district's present water supply depends on the storage regulation afforded by a dam at the outlet of Twin Lakes on Rathdrum Creek, as you can see on the chart. The quantity of water available is not sufficient to satisfy irrigation requirements through the summer months, and is subject to excessive losses in conveyance. Twin Lakes Reservoir has been extensively developed for recreation and fishing by local interests. On the basis of an appeal by these interests, as Congressman McClure pointed out, the Idaho Supreme Court has ruled that fluctuation of the water level of Twin Lakes must be limited to 4 feet. Operation under this decision will further curtail the district's water supply.

The proposed new water system would use ground water from the extensive aquifer underlying the service area. It would provide a full and dependable water supply to the 1,770 acres of presently irrigated land, those shown in green, and to 3,460 acres of dry land in the area. These dry lands are shown in yellow. In addition to serving the needs of the irrigators, the proposed development would provide a domestic and livestock water supply and, by stabilizing the levels of Twin Lakes, outdoor recreation opportunities and fish and wildlife resources at the Twin Lakes Reservoir would be enhanced.

The principal facilities to be built consist of four separate water supply complexes. Each complex consists of three or four large wells and one small well, pumps, an elevated regulating reservoir, and a closed pipe distribution system. The display map shows the general location and layout of these facilities. Water would be delivered under sufficient pressure to permit sprinkler irrigation of the 5,230 acres of unit land and to serve the domestic and livestock water needs of the residents of the area. During the nonirrigation season, water needed for domestic services would be provided by the small well and pump in each complex.

Our nearby Spokane Valley project has similar facilities and draws its water from the same aquifer. It has been operating successfully for several years.

The presently irrigated area is devoted mainly to alfalfa, pasture, and grass seed, and the general area is primarily dependent upon a dairy economy. The dry lands which are farmed are planted to wheat, small grain, and forage crops and usually lie fallow every other year. Additional dairy farming and the production of alfalfa, rotation pasture, small grains and grass seed, will occur with development of the unit. Farm ownerships in the service area are generally in small tracts averaging 29 acres, some being part-time farms and rural homesites.

No difficulty is anticipated in conforming to the acreage limitation provisions of reclamation law.

The existing East Greenacres Irrigation District will extend its boundaries to include all lands in the unit service area. Unit lands are adaptable to sprinkler irrigation with a minimum of leveling. A high gravel content of the soils and underlying gravel strata assure good drainage and a minimum of runoff from the surface. These characteristics also limit the variety of crops adaptable to the land.

House Document No. 91-182 describes the plan of development and the basis for the Secretary's finding of economic justification and financial feasibility. We now have reexamined the unit to determine its justification under the currently prescribed interest rate of 4% percent. Our presentation this morning is on that basis.

The evaluated annual irrigation benefits total \$437,900 and consist of \$285,600 so-called direct benefits as measured by the increase in net farm income under developed conditions and \$152,300 of so-called indirect benefits. Municipal and industrial (domestic) water supply benefits represent the cost of the most likely alternative source of domestic water and are now estimated at \$11,000 annually.

Senator ANDERSON. May I interrupt for a second. What is the rate of interest here, 4%?

Mr. ARMSTRONG. The interest rate is 4 $\frac{7}{8}$ percent for fiscal year 1970. This is the interest rate that we use for that purpose.

Senator ANDERSON. That is more rate than you pay now?

Mr. ARMSTRONG. No; this is the rate we use under the Water Resources Council directives to make our economic analyses.

Senator ANDERSON. All right. Is there any limit to the rate of interest?

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Yes, it is related to the average market rate currently being paid for long-term investments. This rate, however, cannot increase more than a quarter of a percent per year.

Senator ANDERSON. As you state, it is the average rate, that covers the rate here.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Yes; it is an average rate.

Fish and wildlife benefits will occur in Twin Lakes Reservoir as a direct result of the stabilization of the water levels, which will occur when the lakes no longer are drawn down for irrigation water supply. The Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife has evaluated these benefits to be \$25,000 annually. Two additional public access areas would be developed and equipped with boat launching ramps and parking facilities. Use of the same access areas and facilities for general recreation will produce an annual recreation benefit of \$2,300.

The total evaluated annual benefits are \$476,000 of which \$324,000 are now defined as direct benefits.

The estimated construction cost of the East Greenacres Unit at January 1969 prices is \$4,965,000. An irrigation pumping power suballocation of the Federal Columbia River Power System of \$365,000 represents the cost of generating, transmitting, and marketing the quantity of electric energy required by the Unit for irrigation pumping. The total project cost is the sum of these two factors, \$5,330,000.

The annual equivalent cost of the unit, comprising the annual equivalent of the Federal investment and the increase in operating cost with the project is computed to be about \$308,000 annually.

Economic justification for the unit is demonstrated by benefit-cost ratios of 1.55 to 1 for total benefits and 1.05 to 1 for direct benefits only. And these are on the basis of the $4\frac{1}{8}$ percent interest.

The total estimated cost is allocated by the separable cost-remaining benefits method among the functions of the unit. The cost allocated to irrigation is \$4,860,000, comprising 91 percent of the total cost, to domestic water supply \$141,000, to fish and wildlife enhancement \$301,000, and to recreation \$28,000.

Water users would repay the irrigation allocation in accordance with their repayment ability over a 50-year period following a 10-year development period for the new lands and a 3-year development period for the presently irrigated lands.

Senator ANDERSON. What do you mean there now, the new lands?

Mr. ARMSTRONG. The new lands that have not been irrigated, the lands shown in yellow. It is presently cultivated but without irrigation.

Senator CHURCH. Dry farming.

Senator ANDERSON. All right.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. As a minimum, water users would pay an estimated average annual water charge of \$13 per acre. This would enable them to pay the annual operating cost allocated to irrigation of \$52,600 and in addition to repay \$15,800 annually toward construction cost. The annual operating costs include pumping power charges which would be established at a rate to repay the irrigation pumping power sub-allocation during the repayment period.

In 50 years the irrigators, through their monthly power bills, would repay the entire irrigation pumping power allocation, \$365,000, and through direct water charges about \$792,000 of the cost allocated to irrigation. Also, municipal and industrial water revenues in excess of the amount required to repay the costs allocated to that purpose, estimated to amount to \$73,000, would be applied toward repayment of the irrigation cost allocation. This would leave a remainder of \$3,630,000 to complete repayment of the irrigation allocation, which would be returned from revenues derived from the disposition of power marketed through the Federal Columbia River Power System. Net system revenues approaching \$300,000,000 are expected to accumulate by the time such assistance is required by the East Greenacres Unit.

The municipal and industrial water supply allocation of \$141,000 plus interest during construction would be repaid by the water users with interest over a period of 50 years. The requirement for domestic water is expected to increase over the years as the Unit is developed. Continuation of payments by municipal and industrial water users in accordance with our suggested amendments during the remainder of the period while the irrigators are repaying their assigned costs would provide surplus revenues of \$73,000 to assist in repayment of the irrigation cost allocation.

The Federal Water Project Recreation Act requires that a non-Federal public body administer the land and water areas for recreation and fish and wildlife enhancement and share in the separable costs allocated to those functions. The separable costs for the East Greenacres Unit would be the costs of the access areas at Twin Lakes and the associated facilities, totaling \$32,000. Kootenai County has indicated in writing its intent to agree to repay one-half of these costs plus interest during construction, totaling \$16,700, and to bear the annual operation and maintenance costs. Execution of such an agree-

ment would be prerequisite to construction of the unit. The district will cede to the county its rights to Twin Lakes water when the new system is operable.

The East Greenacres unit will make a definite and valuable contribution to the environment of the local area. The stabilization of the water levels of Twin Lakes will enhance their scenic, recreation, and fishery value and increase the quality of the environment. We know of no adverse environmental or ecological effects of the construction and operation of the unit.

The East Greenacres Irrigation District and other property owners enthusiastically support this proposed project. We believe it is a good project and we recommend the committee's favorable consideration of S. 3428 with the amendments recommended in the Assistant Secretary's letter.

And that, Mr. Chairman, is our statement.

Senator ANDERSON. It is \$14 an acre for water?

Mr. ARMSTRONG. \$13 per acre.

Senator ANDERSON. How is it for the ordinary charges?

Mr. ARMSTRONG. That is in line with the ability of the water users to pay.

Senator ANDERSON. How does it compare in cost with other areas?

Mr. ARMSTRONG. It is similar to cost in the adjacent areas.

Mr. Spearman tells me it is \$1 more than the adjacent.

Senator ANDERSON. In the same neighborhood?

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Yes.

Senator ANDERSON. Do these farmers who are there now farm on present dry lands, or do they have to wait for several years before they can sell their crops?

Mr. ARMSTRONG. No, we think that they will convert largely to a dairy economy, increase their dairy herds. It will take awhile to adjust their lands to the new farming.

Senator ANDERSON. They cannot sell on the surplus market?

Mr. ARMSTRONG. For the first 10 years, if you adopt that restriction, of course, they would not be able to grow the surplus crops. But we do not anticipate any problem in this regard.

Senator ANDERSON. As long as it is there you will not have any trouble with it; right?

Mr. ARMSTRONG. That would contribute to the quality of food that we need for our diet across the country, yes.

Senator ANDERSON. Senator Church.

Senator CHURCH. Is it not true that more intensified farming that would be possible with adequate water supply should generally lift the income level for the farmers in the area?

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Yes; it will, and provide the stability that you do not have now. This stability is quite important for continuing the growth and development of an area.

Senator CHURCH. Mr. Chairman, as you noted earlier, this is really the final chapter of an irrigation project that goes back over the years, and it has been a good one on the whole, and I think the unanimity that exists on this project is testimony to the fact that it is a sound one. It is very unusual to have no opposition to a project involving water.

Senator ANDERSON. Mr. Jordan.

Senator JORDAN. Mr. Chairman, a lot of negotiating has taken place at home to resolve what appeared to be a conflict between using the

water out of Twin Lakes for reclamation purposes and meeting the increased recreation demands of the area for those waterfront areas, and this has been accommodated by drilling these wells where the water table is not too deep, to make the water supply possible, and thus preventing a drawdown of the lakes and using them for the recreation purposes that the area demands.

I might say that this particular block of land is within what, 30 miles, 30 miles of Spokane? This is the population center both for recreation purposes and for markets that are already there for dairy products, and the kind of economy that this water development would provide.

Senator ANDERSON. This will sprinkle how many acres? Wells for how many acres?

Mr. ARMSTRONG. The entire area of 5,230 acres will be sprinkled and the farm units will vary, averaging around 30 acres per unit.

Senator ANDERSON. That is not the question I asked. You will be serving certain areas. How many acres will be served by a single well?

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Well, it is a coordinated system. About one-fourth of the total area will be served, three of them by four wells, and one of them by three wells. They will pump into a central system with a large 75,000 gallon elevated reservoir. From 1,200 to 1,500 acres would be served from that unit.

Senator CHURCH. On the map, are these the elevated water tanks?

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Yes.

Senator CHURCH. Indicated here as 1, 2, 3, and 4?

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Yes.

Senator ANDERSON. Are you speaking of 400 acres per well?

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Yes; each well will take care of around 400 acres. But, as I state, they will tie into a centralized system.

Senator ANDERSON. The California system sprinkles a thousand acres.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Yes; that is common, but these are broken up into these small units.

Senator ANDERSON. How big are the wells?

Mr. ARMSTRONG. The wells are 20 to 22 inches in diameter. The flow from each well will be 1,500 to 3,800 gallons per minute.

Senator ANDERSON. They flow a lot more water than that.

Senator JORDAN. What is the average lift?

Mr. SPEARMAN. The wells would be from 230 to 365 feet deep, but the actual lift would be probably in the order of 150 feet of water.

Senator JORDAN. Because the water would rise in the wells to that level?

Mr. ARMSTRONG. It is a rather deep gravel aquifer that is down approximately 200 feet.

Senator ANDERSON. Off the record.

(Discussion off the record.)

Senator ANDERSON. Any other questions?

Senator JORDAN. I have no more questions.

Senator CHURCH. No questions.

Senator ANDERSON. Thank you.

Mr. Bodine.

STATEMENT OF LEROY BODINE, REPRESENTING BOARD OF
DIRECTORS, EAST GREENACRES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Senator ANDERSON. Will you identify yourself and what your position is.

Mr. BODINE. I am Leroy Bodine. I am a representative of East Greenacres Irrigation Board at this hearing.

This is the statement of the East Greenacres Irrigation Board.

It should not be necessary for us to go into a lengthy dissertation as to the nature of and the need for our proposed irrigation project because this subject is extensively covered in the May 1966 Report presented by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation. We do, however, wish to outline briefly for you how desperate our situation is:

Our present irrigation system consists of 1539.77 acres which we irrigate by gravity flow from Twin Lakes, a distance of about 10 miles. There is a tremendous loss of water as the water flows this distance in an open canal and because of the deterioration and obsolescence of the canal. Also the distribution facilities within the land area of the present irrigation system are obsolete and inefficient to operate causing loss of water and improper and inadequate distribution of water available to the land. The cost of putting our present irrigation system into efficient operation would be prohibitive; and it would still be obsolete. The system was planned and built around the turn of the century for flood irrigation. Later on much land was excluded from the original system because of the inadequacy of the water supply. The land in this area does not adapt itself to efficient flood irrigation as some irrigated land. Sprinkler irrigation is the only efficient method of irrigating land here. With sprinkler irrigation and an adequate water supply this land can produce abundantly and bring prosperity to the region.

Another aspect which we wish to bring up is the matter of the long-standing litigation between the Twin Lakes Lakeshore Owners' Association and the East Greenacres Irrigation District regarding the operating levels of Twin Lakes. Since the compilation of the Feasibility Report of the Bureau of Reclamation there have been further court decrees in regard to the irrigation district's rights to the water supply from Twin Lakes. District Court Decree No. 18420 (State of Idaho) limits the irrigation district's withdrawal of water from the Lakes to 4 feet per season—decree dated January 23, 1969. This means that we will be without water for our land by July of each year. For the irrigating season of 1969 we got by fairly well by cutting down on water distribution to the various water users and by securing a "Stay of Execution" of the decree, pending our appeal to the Idaho Supreme Court.

This appeal came up for hearing this month (May 8th) when arguments were presented to the Idaho Supreme Court. We await their decision in about 3 months. We hope the "Stay of Execution" will be extended for this 1970 irrigating season. If the State Supreme Court should agree with the district court, our water situation would be dreadful unless the proposed project has begun. It may be possible that, if at least one of the well clusters in the project is installed, it would probably furnish enough water so that, together with the water from Twin Lakes, we could get by until the project is completed.

Ours is a semiarid area with little or no rainfall during the summer months. With water our land is very productive. With the increased acreage which is contemplated for our project, the farms in our area can really become productive with increased income to the farmers. Winter wheat and one crop of alfalfa hay is all the dry land farming will produce in this area. With sufficient water and added acreage to our irrigation system—increasing our irrigated acreage from 1539.77 acres to 5,270 acres—three crops of alfalfa hay can be grown and harvested. Also there can be a conversion of land from dry land wheat production to self-supported diversified farming operations consisting of the raising of various kinds of grass seed as well as row crops. It has already been proved that this area produces the best beans of any area in the country. The economy of the area could be greatly strengthened and there is the possibility of this area becoming a great food processing center with the establishing of food processing plants.

With adequate water and a change in the kind of crops raised, it is an absolute certainty that the economic status of our farmers will be improved. With the farmers' economy improved it is a proved fact that all other business and services in the area will improve and contribute to our livelihood, to the welfare of the whole and make this world just a little better place to live in.

We also wish to point out that the increase of boundaries that includes this 5,270 acres has already been achieved under Idaho law, so there is nothing further to do here. The support of all the residents in this area is overwhelming.

It will be noted that in addition to the rehabilitation and expansion of our irrigation system, the Bureau of Reclamation includes in their report the addition of a domestic water system. We do not feel that it is necessary to go into this addition in great detail as to the advantages to be derived from an adequate domestic water supply. It matters now how efficient a farm may be in its operation with proper farming methods employed and an adequate irrigation water supply, a family must also have its domestic water supply. It must have water for food preparation, for drinking purposes for man and animal, and for cleanliness. There are farmers in this area who have to haul water in tanks from the city of Post Falls or Rathdrum for livestock and for domestic use. There is at present in operation in this area a domestic water association which supplies water to a very small portion of this area. The facilities of this water supply were declared obsolete and incapable of expansion in the Bureau of Reclamation's feasibility report.

There is another aspect of this matter which we wish to touch upon before closing and that is: The proposed operation of Twin Lakes for recreation and fish and wildlife purposes will eliminate conflicting uses of the Twin Lakes and will improve the outdoor recreation opportunities of this area.

Surely you can see that we are desperate. We need water for our very existence. We have the good earth; we have the sun; please, please give us the water.

That is the statement by the East Greenacres Irrigation Board. Senator ANDERSON. Do you farm in that area?

Mr. BODINE. Yes, sir.

Senator ANDERSON. Where do you farm?

Mr. BODINE. Well, the No. 2 well complex will be right alongside our house.

Senator ANDERSON. How long have you farmed there?

Mr. BODINE. About 25 years.

Senator ANDERSON. Do the farmers there have any opposition? They are supporting it all the way through?

Mr. BODINE. Yes; I am sure they do. I know of no opposition to the project.

Senator ANDERSON. You pay \$13 an acre for it?

Mr. BODINE. We are paying more than \$13 an acre. We pay \$8 annual charge. And our pumping cost of our present system, of pumping it to a greater system are greater than that. We probably pay close to \$15 an acre at the present time.

Senator ANDERSON. This charge is valued in the same ball park, at least?

Mr. BODINE. Right.

Senator ANDERSON. Senator Church.

Senator CHURCH. Leroy, I think you made a very good statement. I think it is very helpful to the committee that you came, actually as a farmer who is going to get benefits from the system and knows the area well.

Senator ANDERSON. That is my impression. He farms in the area and it is very important testimony from his standpoint.

Senator CHURCH. Yes. I think he also has underlined the urgency because of this Supreme Court decision and the possibility the present supply will be impaired. I hope that we get this authorization legislation through quickly. We are not then blocked for appropriations to go ahead with the actual construction. It is always a two-step proposition and sometimes we can get the authorization and then find it is very difficult to get the money.

Senator ANDERSON. Senator Jordan.

Senator JORDAN. Leroy, you mentioned the possibility of food processing plants in the area. Tell us what crops, food crops, might be produced there for food processing.

Mr. BODINE. While we at the present time are raising green beans ourselves—

Senator JORDAN. Green beans?

Mr. BODINE. These have proved to be not a great financial crop but a very solid backbone crop. Grass is a crop that fluctuates a great deal in price and any farmer needs a crop that he can have for the backbone of his operation.

Senator JORDAN. You are speaking now of grass seed production?

Mr. BODINE. Grass seed. And I disagree somewhat with the Bureau of Reclamation about the dairy industry. I think primarily what will be raised in the area now will be more of row crops and such as that, rather than the dairy industry. The dairy industry has gone to very large dairies and I do not think there will be too many of those in the area.

This can be farmed very successfully in family-type operations, and it has been done and is done in the areas adjacent to it.

Senator JORDAN. What is your elevation there?

Mr. BODINE. About 2,100 feet.

Senator JORDAN. How many days of frost-free growing period do you have in an average season?

Mr. BODINE. We feel somewhere between the 15th of May and 15th of September. I have to do a little thinking how many days it is.

Senator JORDAN. This brackets the time. That is the important thing.

I do not have any more questions. I think you made a good statement.

Senator ANDERSON. The witnesses are excused.

Now, would the Senators remain for a second.

Thank you very much for being here.

(The subcommittee reported the Senate bill with amendments.)

(Whereupon, at 10:57 a.m., the subcommittee adjourned.)

