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# CIBOLO, TEXAS, AND FRYINGPAN-ARKANSAS, COLORADO, PROJECTS

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## HEARING

BEFORE THE

### SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER RESOURCES

OF THE

### COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS, UNITED STATES SENATE

NINETY-THIRD CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

ON

#### S. 3568

A BILL TO AUTHORIZE THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR  
TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN THE CIBOLO  
PROJECT, TEXAS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

#### S. 3740

A BILL TO AMEND THE ACT OF AUGUST 16, 1962, AUTHORIZ-  
ING CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION, AND MAINTENANCE OF  
THE FRYINGPAN-ARKANSAS PROJECT, COLORADO, TO PRO-  
VIDE FOR THE INCORPORATION OF PUMPED STORAGE HY-  
DROELECTRIC FACILITIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

JULY 18, 1974



Printed for the use of the  
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

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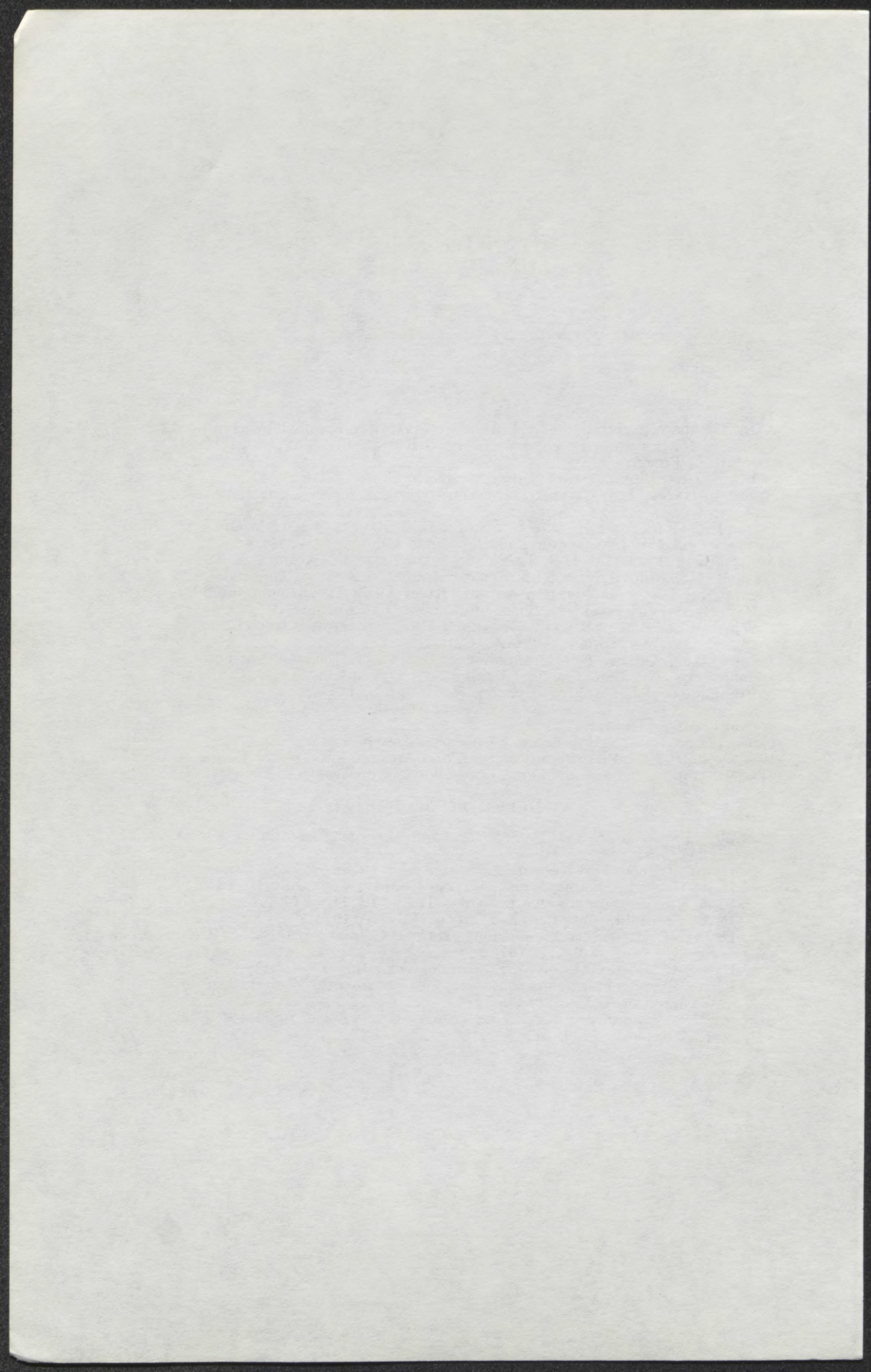
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# CIBOLO, TEXAS, AND FRYINGPAN-ARKANSAS, COLORADO PROJECTS

THURSDAY, JULY 18, 1974

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

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 10 a.m., in room 3110, Dirksen Office Building, Hon. Paul J. Fannin presiding.

Present: Senators Fannin and Hatfield.

Also present: Jerry T. Verkler, staff director; Daniel A. Dreyfus and Russell R. Brown, professional staff members; and W. O. Craft, Jr., deputy minority counsel.

## OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. PAUL J. FANNIN, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF ARIZONA

Senator FANNIN. The hearing will come to order. The purpose of this hearing before the Water and Power Resources Subcommittee this morning is to take testimony from administration and public witnesses on two measures.

S. 3568, introduced by Senator Bentsen, is a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct, operate, and maintain the Cibolo project in Texas.

The second measure, S. 3740, sponsored by Senator Haskell and Senator Dominick, would amend the act of August 16, 1962, which authorized the Fryingpan-Arkansas reclamation project in Colorado, for the incorporation of pumped storage hydroelectric facilities and other purposes.

Companion legislation to both of these measures has been incorporated by the House Interior Committee in the proposed Reclamation Development Act of 1974, which is presently pending before the full House Interior Committee.

The texts of S. 3568 and S. 3740 and the Executive communications relating to these measures will be included in the record at the appropriate point.

[The text of S. 3568 and the Department of the Interior's report follow:]

93<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# S. 3568

---

## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 3, 1974

Mr. BENTSEN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

---

## A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct, operate, and maintain the Cibolo project, Texas, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That the Secretary of Interior is authorized to construct,  
4       operate, and maintain the Cibolo project, Texas, in accord-  
5       ance with the Federal reclamation laws (Act of June 17,  
6       1902, 32 Stat. 388, and Acts amendatory thereof or supple-  
7       mentary thereto) and the provisions of this title and the  
8       plan set out in the report of the Secretary on this project  
9       with such modification of, omissions from, or additions to  
10      the works, as the Secretary may find proper and necessary

1 for the purposes of storing, regulating, and furnishing water  
2 for municipal and industrial use, conserving and developing  
3 fish and wildlife resources, providing outdoor recreation  
4 opportunities, and controlling floods. The principal features  
5 of the project shall consist of a dam and reservoir on Cibolo  
6 Creek and public outdoor recreation facilities.

7       SEC. 2. The interest rate used for computing interest  
8 during construction and interest on the unpaid balance of  
9 the reimbursable costs of the project shall be determined  
10 by the Secretary of the Treasury, as of the beginning of the  
11 fiscal year in which construction of the project is commenced,  
12 on the basis of the computed average interest rate payable  
13 by the Treasury upon its outstanding marketable public  
14 obligations which are neither due nor callable for redemp-  
15 tion for fifteen years from date of issue.

16       SEC. 3. (a) The Secretary is authorized to enter into  
17 a contract with a qualified entity or entities, for delivery  
18 of water and for repayment of all the reimbursable construc-  
19 tion costs.

20       (b) Construction of the project shall not be commenced  
21 until a suitable contract has been executed by the Secretary  
22 with a qualified entity or entities.

23       (c) Such contract may be entered into without regard  
24 to the last sentence of section 9, subsection (c), of the  
25 Reclamation Project Act of 1939.

1 (d) Upon execution of the contract referred to in the  
2 subsection 203 (a) above, and upon completion of construc-  
3 tion of the project, the Secretary shall transfer to a qualified  
4 contracting entity or entities the care, operation, and main-  
5 tenance of the project works; and, after such transfer is  
6 made will reimburse the contractor annually for that portion  
7 of the year's joint operation and maintenance costs which,  
8 if the United States had continued to operate the project,  
9 would have been allocated to flood control, fish and wildlife,  
10 and recreation purposes. Prior to assuming care, operation,  
11 and maintenance of the project works the contracting entity  
12 or entities shall be obligated to operate them in accordance  
13 with regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Army  
14 with respect to flood control, and by the Secretary of the  
15 Interior with respect to fish and wildlife and recreation.

16 (e) Upon execution of the contract referred to in  
17 subsection 203 (a) above, and upon completion of construc-  
18 tion of the project, the contracting entity or entities, their  
19 designee or designees, shall have a permanent right to use  
20 the reservoir and related facilities of the Cibolo project in  
21 accordance with said contract.

22 SEC. 4. The conservation and development of the fish  
23 and wildlife resources and the enhancement of recreation  
24 opportunities in connection with the Cibolo project shall be

1 in accordance with provisions of the Federal Water Project  
2 Recreation Act (79 Stat. 213).

3       SEC. 5. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated  
4 to defray construction costs of the Cibolo reclamation project  
5 allowable to flood control, fish and wildlife, and recreation  
6 the sum of \$20,867,000 (June 1973 prices) plus or minus  
7 such amounts, if any, as may be justified by reason of  
8 ordinary fluctuations in construction costs as indicated by  
9 engineering cost indexes applicable to the type of construc-  
10 tion involved herein: *Provided*, That prior to appropriation  
11 of any Federal funds the San Antonio River Authority shall,  
12 pursuant to a contract satisfactory to the Secretary of the  
13 Interior, agree to advance funds for postauthorization plan-  
14 ning and construction of the Cibolo reclamation project. The  
15 amount of funds to be advanced annually shall be in the  
16 proportion to the total annual fund requirements for the  
17 project as the construction cost allocated to municipal and  
18 industrial water is to the total cost of the project: *Provided*  
19 *further*, That the sum of funds advanced shall not exceed the  
20 total project cost allocated to municipal and industrial water.  
21 There are also authorized to be appropriated such additional  
22 sums as may be required for the operation and maintenance  
23 of the project. The discount rate to be used by the Secretary  
24 for allocating costs of the works authorized herein shall be  
25 the rate for the fiscal year of passage of this Act as derived

1 by the Secretary of the Treasury utilizing the formula set  
2 forth in Senate Document Numbered 97, Eighty-seventh  
3 Congress, second session, as revised by the Water Resources  
4 Council announcement in the Federal Register of  
5 December 24, 1968.



*Dan*

United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

JUL 15 1974

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This responds to your request for our views concerning S. 3568, a bill to authorize construction of the Cibolo Project in Texas.

We recommend that S. 3568 be enacted.

The bill.

The bill authorizes construction, operation and maintenance of the Cibolo Project and provides that the San Antonio River Authority shall, prior to appropriations of Federal funds, agree to advance postauthorization planning and construction funds equal to the costs allocated to municipal and industrial water. As a result, Federal appropriations of \$20,867,000 (June 1973 prices) would be needed under S. 3568 as against estimated total project costs of \$50,242,000.

We believe this joint financing approach between the Federal government and the project beneficiaries is a good principle to establish and it should enhance our ability to reduce the currently unmanageable backlog of authorized but unfunded construction of water resource projects.

The project.

The Cibolo Project would be built on a multiple-purpose basis on Cibolo Creek in the San Antonio River Basin in south-central Texas. It would provide a new municipal and industrial water supply for the cities of San Antonio, Karnes City, and Kenedy; flood control; conservation of fish and wildlife resources; and outdoor recreation.

Principal features of the project would consist of a dam and reservoir on Cibolo Creek and public outdoor recreation facilities. The dam would be 22.5 river-miles upstream from its confluence with the San Antonio River. Cibolo Reservoir would have a controlled capacity of 402,500 acre-feet, consisting of 21,400 acre-feet for sediment deposition, 178,600 acre-feet for municipal and industrial water supply, and 202,500 acre-feet for flood



control. The firm yield of the reservoir would be 25,000 acre-feet per year after allowance for 100 years of sediment and increased upstream agricultural depletion. The project would provide about 6,000 acre-feet of water per year for Kenedy and Karnes City and would be delivered by releases into Cibolo Creek for downstream diversion through facilities that would be financed, constructed, operated and maintained by the San Antonio River Authority. The remaining 19,000 acre-feet per year of project water would be assigned to the city of San Antonio and would be delivered through facilities financed, constructed, operated, and maintained by the San Antonio City Water Board.

The project would change land use on 22,206 acres of land; require relocation of 75 families, powerlines, roads, and irrigation facilities; require plugging of oil and gas wells; involve removal or loss of certain archeological resources; and would reduce average annual freshwater inflow to the San Antonio Estuary by 1.4 percent of 2010 inflow. It would also reduce estuarine sport fishing by 7,000 man-days, and reduce commercial catch 330,000 pounds per year out of a total current estimate of 1,205,000 man days and 35,300,000 pounds. Twenty-four miles of fish habitat in Cibolo Creek and 10,000 acres of wildlife habitat would also be eliminated.

#### Costs.

The estimated cost of the project is \$50,242,000 at July 1973 prices. The total cost includes \$1,083,000 for second-stage recreation facilities. Average annual benefits are expected to total \$5,243,600. Of these, \$3,504,000 are municipal and industrial water supply benefits, \$899,100 are flood control benefits, \$613,600 are recreation benefits and \$226,900 are fish and wildlife benefits. Based on a 100-year period of analysis and an interest rate of 6-7/8 percent, the benefit-cost ratio is 1.3 to 1.

The reimbursable costs of municipal and industrial water supply are \$30,739,000. The reimbursable costs assigned to recreation and fish and wildlife include \$872,000 for construction and fishery management studies, and \$37,000 for interest during construction based on a rate of 4.012 percent. Reimbursement of fish, wildlife and recreation costs would be in accordance with the Federal Water Project Recreation Act.

Other.

The proposed Secretary's feasibility report for the Project was transmitted to the State of Texas and to interested Federal agencies for review as required by law and Presidential instructions. A draft environmental impact statement has been coordinated with other agencies and furnished to the Council on Environmental Quality and a copy is enclosed herewith.

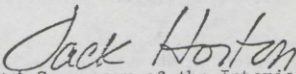
Discussion.

S. 3568 would provide for financing the Cibolo project on a highly desirable joint basis between the Federal government and non-Federal interests. The San Antonio River Authority has indicated a willingness to advance funds pursuant to a contract with the Secretary of the Interior for postauthorization planning and construction of the Cibolo Project. The amount of funds to be advanced annually would be in proportion to the total annual fund requirements for the project as the construction cost allocated to municipal and industrial water is to the total cost of the project. The sum of funds advanced would not exceed the total project construction cost allocated to municipal and industrial water. All of the nonreimbursable project costs and the reimbursable costs allocated to fish and wildlife and recreation would be obtained through appropriation of Federal funds. Reimbursement of fish and wildlife and recreation costs would be in accordance with Public Law 89-72.

We note that on page 3, the reference in lines 2 and 17 to subsection 203(a) should be changed to subsection 3(a) and also that the word "allowable" on page 4, line 5, should read "allocable".

The Office of Management and Budget has advised that there is no objection to the enactment of S. 3568 or to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely yours,

  
Assistant Secretary of the Interior

Hon. Henry M. Jackson  
Chairman, Committee on  
Interior and Insular Affairs  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator FANNIN. Senator Bentsen is unable to attend, but asked that his statement be placed in the record at this time. I also have a statement in behalf of Senator Tower as well for insertion.

[The prepared statements of Senators Bentsen and Tower follow:]

STATEMENT OF HON. LLOYD BENTSEN, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF TEXAS

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to appear today in behalf of S. 3568, a bill to authorize the construction of the Cibolo Project in Texas. I am most appreciative that the Subcommittee was able to schedule consideration of this project at this time.

Mr. Chairman, the Cibolo Project is located in Wilson County, Texas near the City of San Antonio. The project's plan of development provides for construction of Cibolo Dam and Reservoir on Cibolo Creek to regulate its flows for flood control, and for municipal and industrial water supply. The plan includes recreation and sport fishing facilities at the reservoir and would provide major fish and wildlife benefits.

The project has undergone a thorough seven year Federal and State investigation which revealed that the project would contribute greatly to the capacity of the municipal and industrial water supply systems for the growing communities of San Antonio, Karnes City and Kenedy.

Most of the Cibolo Project region depends solely on the Edwards and Carrizo-Wilcox aquifers of water supply. Continued dependence upon these aquifers by the region's competing water users portends serious consequences for the area and particularly for the estuaries of the Gulf of Mexico where the biological and economic productivity are reliant upon fresh water and its nutrient materials. The region urgently requires a supplementary surface water supply system in order that progress may be made toward implementation of a surface water, ground water conjunctive use program for the area. The multi-purpose Cibolo Project represents the first phase of such a planned supplementary surface water supply system, and it will also provide much needed flood control storage to mitigate flood hazards in the lower San Antonio River Basin.

Currently, the Edwards aquifer is the sole water supply source for the City of San Antonio. In turn, the City is the largest metropolitan area in the Nation whose municipal requirements are met entirely with groundwater. In recent years, regional water-supply and water-management studies have clearly shown that the dependable yield of the Edwards aquifer is rapidly being approached and that development of surface water supplies for the region is absolutely essential.

In addition to the Project's importance in providing the City of San Antonio a supplementary water supply source and in reducing demands being imposed on the Edwards aquifer, the Project is of considerable importance to the Cities of Kenedy and Karnes City because these communities must now use groundwater that is very undesirable because of excessive salt concentrations.

Based on these facts of immediate need and the extensive studies that have been made on this Project, I would hope that the Interior Committee would take swift and positive consideration of this authorization request.

---

STATEMENT OF HON. JOHN TOWER, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF TEXAS

Mr. Chairman and distinguished members of the Subcommittee, due to the pressing need for additional water supplies in South Texas, I was pleased to sponsor S. 3568, a bill which would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct, operate and maintain the Cibolo Project, Texas.

Mr. Chairman, in some states water projects are not of primary importance because those states are blessed with a bountiful supply of water, but in Texas there are both rural and urban areas which must find additional water supplies in the immediate future. Today, San Antonio, Texas, and the adjacent towns of Kenedy and Karnes City acquire their water supply from ground water obtained from the Edwards Aquifer. In fact, San Antonio is the largest municipality in the United States still wholly dependent on ground water. If these municipalities continue to meet their water requirements by relying solely upon ground water, demand will soon exceed supply and the overdraft on the Edwards Aquifer will result in a tremendous reduction of available water for the scenic and useful flowing streams of Southwest Texas.

As provided for in S. 3568, the Cibolo Project would consist of a multi-purpose dam and reservoir on the Cibolo Creek, a tributary of the San Antonio River, in Wilson County, Texas. The dam would be physically located approximately 30 miles southeast of San Antonio, Texas. Cibolo Reservoir would furnish much needed water for municipal and industrial use and would also afford a high degree of flood control while providing abundant fish and wildlife and recreational benefits.

Mr. Chairman, this legislation has strong support from all levels of state and local officials as well as the private citizen associated with this project. A further manifestation of state and local backing is the willingness by the San Antonio River Authority to advance funds pursuant to a contract with the Secretary of Interior for post-authorization planning and construction of the project. Therefore, as an alternative to total federal funding, S. 3568 provides for joint funding of the estimated \$50,242,000 project cost—a federal obligation of some \$20,867,000 and a local obligation of approximately \$30 million. It is important to note that the Cibolo Project has an excellent projected benefit-cost ratio of 1.4 to 1.

Presently pending in the House of Representatives is an Omnibus Bill, HR 15736, known as the Reclamation Development Act of 1974. Incorporated into HR 15736 is language similar to S. 3568. I am informed that approval by the House of Representatives will occur in the very near future. In addition, the Department of the Interior recommends enactment of this legislation and the Office of Management and Budget has advised that there is no objection from the Administration's viewpoint.

Mr. Chairman, there is an urgent necessity for the development of a new dependable water supply primarily for municipal and industrial needs in the San Antonio area. The location of the Cibolo Dam and Reservoir in the San Antonio River Basin is of vital importance to the continued growth and economic well-being in this South-central area of Texas. The project will not only enhance the supply of much needed water, it will also relieve pumping pressures currently being forced on the the underground aquifers that now support these communities. Such relief will assure the continued flows of the natural streams and springs in this region of Texas.

I therefore urge that your Committee give prompt approval of this authorization legislation in order that Congress might take favorable action without delay.

Senator FANNIN. First of all, I want to apologize for the delay this morning. We will proceed as rapidly as possible. The first witness this morning will be the Honorable Gilbert G. Stamm, Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation.

In order to proceed in an orderly fashion I trust that we will be able, Mr. Stamm, to bring you back to testify on S. 3740, and if we could proceed this morning on S. 3568, I think you pronounce that Cibolo, like we do in our area in Arizona.

Perhaps that's not right. But if you will just proceed.

**STATEMENT OF HON. GILBERT G. STAMM, COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION; ACCOMPANIED BY NORMAN FLAIGG, PLANNING OFFICER, AUSTIN, TEX.; AND JIM ELLINGBOE, CHIEF, PLANNING DIVISION, WASHINGTON, D.C.**

Commissioner STAMM. Yes, Mr. Chairman. With your permission I would like to have at the table with me Mr. Norman Flaigg, who is the Planning Officer from Austin, Tex., on my right.

And on my left Mr. Jim Ellingboe, who is Chief of our Planning Division here in Washington.

Senator FANNIN. We welcome both of your associates this morning.

Commissioner STAMM. I checked before I came to the table to ask these gentlemen how they were going to pronounce that word when they get before you, and I found divided opinion.

Senator FANNIN. Thank you.

Commissioner STAMM. It might be helpful to take just a minute for Mr. Flaigg to explain the principal features of the proposed project, from the map that we have hanging here before you.

Senator FANNIN. Yes. If you will proceed on that basis.

Mr. FLAIGG. Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen. The name of this project comes from a Spanish-Indian word which means buffalo. The principal feature of the project is a dam and reservoir on Cibolo Creek, or Cibolo Reservoir. It is about 30 miles southeast of San Antonio.

The purposes of the project will be for municipal and industrial water supply, flood control, recreation and fish wildlife. The project water will be used by the city of San Antonio and by the cities of Karnes City and Kenedy.

San Antonio proposes to build its own pipeline taking water from the reservoir toward San Antonio, and the San Antonio River Authority proposes to build a diversion dam on the lower end of Cibolo Creek, and build a pipeline to carry water to Karnes City and Kenedy.

The project involves a water supply of 25,000 acre feet, which would be divided among those cities.

Commissioner STAMM. I just wanted you to get acquainted with the features. We will cover the quantities and figures in the testimony.

Mr. FLAIGG. The estuary area we will be discussing is the San Antonio Bay at the lower end of the watershed.

Commissioner STAMM. Mr. Chairman, we are pleased to appear here today to offer the Department's views on S. 3568 which is a measure to authorize the construction of the Cibolo project.

The feasibility report has been completed and was transmitted to the Congress on March 29 of this year. The Department's report on the bill recommends enactment. The multiple purpose project would be located on Cibolo Creek in the San Antonio River Basin in south-central Texas, and would provide a municipal and industrial water supply for the cities of San Antonio, Karnes City and Kenedy; flood control, conservation of fish and wildlife resources and opportunities for outdoor recreation. All three cities receive their water supply from groundwater at the present time.

The San Antonio metropolitan area is the largest in the United States still dependent exclusively on groundwater for its municipal and industrial water supply. Karnes City and Kenedy need water supplies of better quality and the city of San Antonio wishes to diversify its water supply by developing surface water supplies to relieve the draft on the Edwards underground aquifer. Principal features of the project would consist of a dam and reservoir on Cibolo Creek and public outdoor recreation facilities.

The dam would be 22.5 river-miles upstream from the confluence of Cibolo Creek with the San Antonio River. Cibolo Reservoir would have a controlled capacity of 402,500 acre-feet consisting of 21,400 acre-feet for sediment deposition, 178,600 acre-feet for municipal and industrial water supply and 202,500 acre-feet for flood control.

The firm yield of the reservoir would be 25,000 acre-feet per year after allowance for 100 years of sediment deposition and increased upstream agricultural depletion. The project would provide about 6,000 acre-feet of water per year for Kenedy and Karnes City which would be delivered by releases into Cibolo Creek for downstream

diversion through facilities that would be financed, constructed, operated and maintained by the San Antonio River Authority. The remaining 19,000 acre-feet per year of project water would be delivered through facilities financed, constructed, operated and maintained by the San Antonio City Water Board.

The reservoir would have a surface area of 10,000 acres at the top of the conservation pool, and 16,260 acres at top of flood control capacity. The plan of development provides for acquiring fee simple title to 22,220 acres, including some 700 acres for recreational purposes.

Bureau of Reclamation investigations in the San Antonio River Basin were made initially as part of an overall Texas Basins project investigation, which was started in 1954. The Texas Basins project includes Cibolo Reservoir in a group of project works recommended for approval as elements of the overall plan on the basis of reconnaissance studies. The project is included in the plan presented in the 1962 report of the Texas Water Plan published by the Texas Water Development Board in November 1968. The Bureau of Reclamation initiated a feasibility study of the Cibolo project in fiscal year 1964.

The Department's proposed report was transmitted to the State of Texas and to interested Federal agencies for review as required by law and Presidential instructions.

A draft environmental statement has been coordinated with other agencies and was filed with the Council on Environmental Quality on March 27, 1972. A final environmental statement is being processed and will be filed with the Council on Environmental Quality in the very near future.

In accordance with Texas law, the Texas Water Rights Commission held a hearing on the Secretary's proposed report on the Cibolo project in Austin, Tex., on May 15, 1972. On May 30, 1972, the Texas Water Rights Commission published an order approving the feasibility of the project.

S. 3568 provides that the project sponsor shall advance the reimbursable portion of the construction costs allocated to municipal and industrial water. The Federal Government would provide those funds required to defray the construction costs of the project allocated to flood control, fish and wildlife, and recreation facilities.

The estimated cost of the project is \$50,422,000 at July 1973, prices. The estimated cost includes \$1,083,000 for second-stage recreation facilities. Average annual benefits from the project are expected to total \$4,563,000 of which \$2,806,000 are municipal and industrial water supply benefits, \$899,000 are flood control benefits, \$631,000 are recreation benefits with first-stage recreational facilities installed and \$227,000 for fish and wildlife benefits.

Based on a 100-year period of analysis and an interest rate of 5½ percent, the benefit-cost ratio is 1.4 to 1.0.

The reimbursable costs allocated to municipal and industrial water supply are \$29,911,000. The reimbursable costs assigned to recreation and fish and wildlife include \$872,000 for construction and fishery management studies, and \$37,000 for interest during construction.

The San Antonio River Authority would advance funds pursuant to contract with the Secretary of the Interior for post-authorization planning and construction of the Cibolo project. The amount of

funds to be advanced annually would be in the proportion to the total annual fund requirements for the project as the construction cost allocated to municipal and industrial water is to the total cost of the project. The sum of funds advanced would not exceed the total project construction cost allocated to municipal and industrial water.

The San Antonio River Authority has indicated its intent to administer the facilities and repay the reimbursable cost associated with fish and wildlife and recreation facilities in accordance with the Federal Water Project Recreation Act (P.L. 89-72).

The annual operation, maintenance and replacement costs for the project are estimated to be \$279,300. This amount includes \$40,000 for municipal and industrial water, \$26,300 for flood control, \$170,600 for recreation and \$42,400 for fish and wildlife. Of the total operation, maintenance and replacement costs, \$241,700 would be reimbursable.

Although this is a desirable project, I should point out some of the significant environmental effects which are discussed in detail in the environmental impact statement.

The project would change private ownership, occupancy and use of about 22,000 acres in the Cibolo Creek Valley converting it to public ownership and use for municipal and industrial water, flood control, recreation and fish and wildlife purposes.

Acquisition of these lands would involve reduction or elimination of 175 ownerships, movement of 75 families, and removal of 100 sets of improvements.

It would also involve protecting and improving the city of Stockdale's sewage treatment plant, and relocation of highway, irrigation facilities, powerlines and other improvements. Some oil and gas wells would be purchased and plugged, or modified to continue production. Archaeological resources would be salvaged.

I would like to point out that production from these wells that would be affected is very low. I understand the average production is one and one-half barrels per day, so the plugging of some of these would have insignificant effect on our energy crisis.

Senator FANNIN. How many wells would be involved?

Commissioner STAMM. About 12.

Senator FANNIN. Thank you.

Commissioner STAMM. Project water supply operations would reduce the average annual flow of Cibolo Creek between the damsite and the diversion point to Karnes City and Kenedy by 38,000 acre-feet but would maintain a continuous flow of about eight cubic feet per second by release of 6,000 acre-feet per year.

Below the diversion point, average annual flows of Cibolo Creek would be reduced by 44,000 acre-feet, less the portion of the 6,000-acre-foot reservoir release not diverted to Karnes City and Kenedy.

The 1941-65 average annual inflow to the San Antonio Estuary of about 1.6 million acre-feet would be reduced by 30,000 acre-feet or less than 2 percent. The surface water supply developed by the project could reduce the demands on the Edwards underground aquifer. Any such reduction in demand would tend to stabilize the water in storage in the aquifer and provide for sustained flows of the natural springs in the region.

The project would reduce downstream flood damage along Cibolo Creek and the San Antonio River.

The Cibolo project is an engineeringly feasible, economically justified, and environmentally sound multiple-purpose reclamation development. It would be consistent with national priorities for development and use of water and related land resources and would be compatible with the comprehensive plan for Cibolo Creek. The project is needed and strongly supported by the local and state interests.

Therefore, we recommend enactment of S. 3568.

Senator FANNIN. Thank you, Mr. Stamm. Do you have a further statement, or do your associates have any statements?

Commissioner STAMM. No, sir.

Senator FANNIN. You have made a very excellent presentation, Commissioner. I do want to commend Mr. Flaigg and the San Antonio River Authority. On page 4 you outline the procedure being followed. This is certainly a way in which we would like the programs to be handled.

I feel there is a way for a new joint financing of projects by agreeing to advance the postauthorization planning and construction funds equal to cost allocations, municipal and industrial water.

This is something that I think has been needed. I know that Texas is famous for going out front and this self-help project effort is becoming of a State like Texas. What has been done here is certainly illustrative of what can be accomplished where there is joint effort.

I feel that the project would be very beneficial. I am wondering about the land, the 22,000 acres involved in the Creek Valley, converting to public ownership and the use of industrial municipal water.

There is quite a bit of acreage involved. Is it farmland?

Commissioner STAMM. Mr. Chairman, about 26 percent of the land is cropland. About 32 percent is improved pastureland and about 42 percent is wooded pasture.

However, of the cropland portion, only about 1,000 acres is bottom cropland which would be presumably the higher producing land. There is also about 3,300 acres of upland cropland and in addition 1,000 acres, or 5 percent of the total is irrigated land.

Senator FANNIN. What is the time frame involved in accomplishing the design of this project?

Commissioner STAMM. The construction schedule depends upon rate of funding, obviously. This could not be included in an appropriation bill prior to the 1976 fiscal year at the earliest.

But the time schedule for construction would carry through about 5 years.

Senator FANNIN. Well, thank you all very much. I appreciate your presentation. Again, I apologize for the delay.

Commissioner STAMM. Thank you.

Senator FANNIN. The next witness this morning will be Mr. Harry Burleigh, Texas Water Development Board, representing the State of Texas. Mr. Burleigh, will you come forward? Do you have anyone with you that you wish to sit at the table with you?

Mr. BURLEIGH. No. Mr. Chairman, I have submitted to Mr. Dreyfus a written statement covering a statement of my own agency and the Governor of our State, Mr. Briscoe. My name is Burleigh.

Senator FANNIN. The letter and the complete statement, will be made a part of the record and you may proceed as you desire.

STATEMENT OF HARRY BURLEIGH, TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT  
BOARD, REPRESENTING THE STATE OF TEXAS

Mr. BURLEIGH. Both statements speak for themselves, and I will simply state without qualification Governor Briscoe supports this project. The project is an integral of the statewide water plan developed by my own agency and my own agency supports the project on the basis of the very immediate need for the waters it will provide.

Both statements amplify this, but the net results, Senator, is that the Governor and my own agency, which is the water supply agency for the State without qualification support the project, and would be delighted if the committee saw fit to advance it.

Senator FANNIN. Thank you, Mr. Burleigh. It does seem to be a very fine project. What opposition do we have to the project?

Mr. BURLEIGH. At my level, or the gubernatorial level we know of no organized opposition to the project of any kind.

Senator FANNIN. Counsel has called my attention to a statement in the letter from the Governor, stating "the dependable yield of the Edwards aquifer is rapidly being approached and that the development of surface-water supplies for the region is absolutely essential."

What is your feeling in that regard?

Mr. BURLEIGH. The dependable yield of that aquifer year in and year out approximates around 411 or 50,000 acre-feet. We are using that yield now. We are forced to turn to surface water supplies, or we will pump the aquifer to oblivion.

Senator FANNIN. Thank you, Mr. Burleigh. I don't know of any other questions, unless Senator Hatfield—

Senator HATFIELD. No questions.

Senator FANNIN. Thank you very much for your testimony.

[The letter from Governor Briscoe and the prepared statement of the Texas Water Development Board follow:]



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
STATE CAPITOL  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

DOLPH BRISCOE  
GOVERNOR

July 15, 1974

The Honorable Frank Church  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Water  
and Power Resources  
Committee on Interior and  
Insular Affairs  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Church:

The State of Texas has a keen interest in the hearings to be conducted by your subcommittee relating to authorization for construction of the Cibolo Project in the San Antonio River Basin in Texas.

Most of the Cibolo Project region now depends exclusively on the Edwards and Carrizo-Wilcox aquifers for its entire water supply. The City of San Antonio obtains all of its municipal water needs from the Edwards aquifer and is the largest metropolitan area in the Nation where such requirements are met totally with groundwater. Studies made in recent years have clearly shown that the dependable yield of the Edwards aquifer is rapidly being approached and that the development of surface-water supplies for the region is absolutely essential.

Due to our interest and concern, I am submitting the attached statement of the Texas Water Development Board for consideration by your subcommittee.

This opportunity to present to the members of the Subcommittee on Water and Power Resources the official views of the State of Texas on the important Cibolo Project is appreciated. I urge favorable consideration for the early authorization of the project's construction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dolph Briscoe".

Dolph Briscoe

Attachment

STATEMENT

OF THE

TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD

REGARDING

THE CIBOLO PROJECT

PROVIDED TO THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER RESOURCES

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

UNITED STATES SENATE

JULY 18, 1974

The following testimony, pertaining to the Cibolo Project in the San Antonio River Basin of Texas, is respectfully submitted by the Texas Water Development Board.

Statewide water resource planning and development in the State of Texas is the responsibility of the Texas Water Development Board. By statute, the Board is designated as the State agency to cooperate with appropriate agencies of the Federal government as well as with other agencies of the State and local governmental entities to discharge this responsibility. A comprehensive statewide plan, known as the "Texas Water Plan," has been formulated and adopted by the Texas Water Development Board in order to accommodate this responsibility in an orderly manner. The water plan, by statute, is a flexible guide to State policy for the development of water resources in Texas.

The Cibolo Project is an integral element of the Texas Water Plan. The Texas Water Development Board and the San Antonio River Authority have been designated by the Texas Water Rights Commission as cooperating local sponsors to negotiate for the Project with the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation.

Most of the Cibolo Project region depends solely on the Edwards (Balcones Fault Zone) and Carrizo-Wilcox aquifers for total water supply. Continued dependence upon these aquifers by the region's competing water users portends serious consequences from the headwaters of the Guadalupe, San Antonio, and Nueces River Basins to the estuaries and the Gulf of Mexico where the biological and economic productivity are reliant upon fresh water and nutrient materials. The region urgently requires a supplementary surface water supply system in order that progress may be made toward implementation of a well-planned surface water-ground water conjunctive use program for the area. The multipurpose Cibolo Project represents the first phase of such a supplementary surface water supply system, and it will also provide much needed flood control storage to mitigate flood hazards in the lower San Antonio River Basin.

Construction and development of the Cibolo Project will provide the region with a dependable yield of 25,000 acre-feet of water per year. A demonstrable need presently exists for this water. Currently, the Edwards (Balcones Fault Zone) aquifer is the sole water supply source for the City of San Antonio. In turn, the City is the largest metropolitan area in the Nation whose municipal requirements are met entirely with groundwater. In recent years, regional water-supply and water-management studies have clearly shown that the dependable yield of the Edwards aquifer is rapidly being approached and that development of surface-water supplies for the region is absolutely essential.

In addition to the Project's importance in providing the City of San Antonio a potential supplementary water supply source and in reducing demands being imposed on the Edwards aquifer, the Project is of great importance to the Cities of Kenedy and Karnes City because these communities must now use groundwater of high mineral content for their municipal needs. These two cities stand ready to begin immediate use of a portion of the Project yield.

The Texas Water Development Board appreciates the opportunity to provide this testimony to your Committee, and we respectfully urge favorable consideration for early authorization of construction of the vitally needed Cibolo Project.

Respectfully submitted,

TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD

By Harry P. Burleigh

Harry P. Burleigh  
Executive Director

Senator FANNIN. Mr. Pfeiffer will be the next witness, manager, San Antonio River Authority.

**STATEMENT OF FRED N. PFEIFFER, MANAGER, SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY; ACCOMPANIED BY PAUL HERDA, VICE PRESIDENT, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, SAN ANTONIO-BEAR COUNTY; WINSTON LAWRENCE, TREASURER; LAWRENCE REZER, DIRECTOR, KARNES COUNTY; AND E. A. FLEER, DIRECTOR, WILSON COUNTY**

Mr. PFEIFFER. Thank you, Senator. I am Fred Pfeiffer, manager of the San Antonio River Authority. I have with me today four of my directors whom I would like to introduce and of course they will be available for any questions that the committee may have of them.

Senator FANNIN. Thank you, Mr. Pfeiffer.

Mr. PFEIFFER. Mr. Paul Herda is vice president of the board of directors of San Antonio-Bear County. Mr. Winston Lawrence is treasurer of the organization from Stockdale in Wilson County, which would be on the shores of the reservoir, once it is constructed. Mr. Lawrence Rezer, director from Karnes County. The city of Kenedy is his residence. Of course, the city of Kenedy would be one of the recipients of the water, and Mr. E. A. Fleer, is director from Wilson County, where the reservoir will be located.

I have submitted a written statement of the San Antonio River Authority for the record, and would just like, if it would meet with your approval, to just present one highlight that has not been covered in either Mr. Burleigh's, Mr. Briscoe's or the Bureau's statement.

I would like to point this out, because it is something that normally is not considered in reservoir projects. I think it is important that certain other aspects, environmental aspects, land use aspects, sometimes need to be taken into consideration with projects of this magnitude.

That is, in the San Antonio metropolitan area you have already heard about our underground water supply. There is a recharge area to the north and northwest of San Antonio. The urban development is going in this direction, and will soon encroach upon this very sensitive recharge area.

I feel that the development of the Cibolo Reservoir will create an attraction, develop an attraction different from the present trend. In other words, we will develop an alluring attraction to the different direction which would be beneficial, from the environmental standpoint.

To me this is important. I think it is important not only from the economic consideration of Wilson and Karnes County, but it is also important from a pollution and water quality aspect of our underground water supply.

Other than that, I would just like to echo the statements made by the Bureau of Reclamation and the Texas Water Development Board and the Governor, because they have covered the general position of the San Antonio River Authority concerning this project.

I also have statements that I have presented to the committee from the City Water Board of San Antonio, which reaffirms their interest in the authorization of the Federal project.

This has been submitted to the committee.

Senator FANNIN. The full statements will be made a part of the record. Are the statements in addition to your statement, as manager of the San Antonio River Authority?

Mr. PFEIFFER. I have brought with me statements of the city water board. I would just like to list the statements that I have presented, if this meets with your approval, and not go through them in detail.

Senator FANNIN. Yes, all those statements will, as I say, be made a part of the record. You may proceed as you wish.

Mr. PFEIFFER. I also have a statement from Mr. Bill Wadell, who is general manager of the Texas Water Conservation Association, which is a voluntary organization made up of the various interests in the State of Texas in water conservation development, all the way from industrial, agricultural irrigation river authority, environmental, all people interested in the State of Texas in water resource development conservation have formed into an organization.

Mr. Wadell is the general manager. He has submitted a statement in favor of the project.

Senator FANNIN. That statement will be made a part of the record.

Mr. PFEIFFER. I also have a statement from the county judge of Karnes County, and a letter addressed to the chairman of the subcommittee. He would like to see the project funded at an early date.

The city of Karnes City has submitted a letter to the subcommittee also, recommending the authorization and approval of this project. The city of Kenedy has also submitted a letter over the signature of the mayor.

He wishes to go on record confirming that the city of Kenedy is in favor of the Cibolo Reservoir project. Also, Karnes County Hospital District, which covers all of Karnes County, which, of course, will utilize the water, and they want to inform the committee of their support, for S. 3568.

Senator FANNIN. Mr. Pfeiffer, your statement in full will be made a part of the record, and any other letters or statements that you have covered.

[The material referred to above follows:]

Statement of San Antonio River Authority  
to  
Subcommittee on Water and Power Resources  
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs  
United States Senate  
July 18, 1974

The San Antonio River Authority is a joint cooperating local sponsor of the Cibolo Reservoir Project as designated by the Texas Water Rights Commission.

The Cibolo Reservoir Project is needed and is essential in the development and conservation of the land and water resources of the San Antonio River Basin. It is an integral part of the overall integration of the water resources of the Nueces, San Antonio and Guadalupe River Basins as well as the Edwards and Carrizo Aquifers.

The conservation yield of the project will provide municipal and industrial water for the Cities of Kenedy and Karnes City in Karnes County whose present municipal water is very undesirable because of excessive salt concentrations in their present ground water supply. The City of San Antonio desires to supplement its ground water supply because projected municipal, industrial and agricultural demands will soon exceed the average annual recharge to the Edwards Aquifer. Prolonged utilization of the Edwards water in excess of its recharge capabilities would result in the cessation of the Comal and San Marcos Springs and the resultant environmental degradation and social and economic loss.

The project will have a positive economic effect in Karnes County where the citizens of Karnes City and Kenedy will be able to utilize and enjoy a better water supply for both their homes and industry and also in Wilson County where water oriented development and recreation will add a strong and influential economic base to the existing agricultural base.

In our opinion the project will provide a strong and alluring residential development pattern in a direction not formerly attained. From the metropolitan San Antonio area most growth has tended to the northwest, north and northeast of the central city. This pattern of development is beginning to encroach upon an environmentally sensitive area, i. e. , the Balcones fault or Edwards recharge zone where surface water enters the Edwards Aquifer.

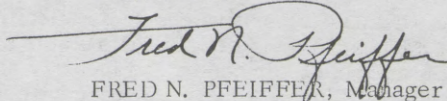
Other reservoir projects in the region, i. e. , Medina, an irrigation reservoir located northwest of San Antonio, and Canyon, a multi-purpose Corps of Engineers reservoir located northeast of San Antonio, have tended to accentuate this trend. The Cibolo project would present a positive alternative and one which would encourage south and southeast development patterns helping to alleviate this current undesirable growth trend in the critical area.

The recreational opportunities to be provided by Cibolo are also desirable and needed. SARA presently operates the recreational activities on the City Public Service Board's Braunig and Calaveras Lakes in southeastern Bexar County. These small reservoirs, though, have limited capabilities in both the range of activities and physical capacity to fulfill even the current needs.

To insure the quality of waters to be stored and utilized in the reservoir SARA will request and anticipates being designated as the licensing agent of the Texas Water Quality Board for a Cibolo Reservoir water quality zone order similar to orders already promulgated and in effect around other reservoirs throughout the state.

In conclusion, the San Antonio River Authority has been intimately involved in the development of this project since its inception and there is an urgent need to move forward as expeditiously as possible to be able to provide the Cities of San Antonio, Kenedy and Karnes City with waters needed for their orderly growth, health and well-being. SARA, as local sponsor, has the territorial jurisdiction over the area where the project will be located and the cities to be served and has the necessary legal authority to construct and operate, or participate in the construction and operation of the project as proposed in the Feasibility Report and to assume the obligation and responsibilities imposed by Federal and State laws and regulations on a local sponsor. The San Antonio River Authority supports this project and requests that the Subcommittee on Water and Power Resources give favorable recommendation to S. 3568 introduced by Senator Bentsen.

Respectfully submitted,



FRED N. PFEIFFER, Manager  
San Antonio River Authority

STATEMENT OF THE CITY WATER BOARD, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS,  
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE HEARING ON THE  
CIBOLO PROJECT BEING HELD BY THE  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER RESOURCES OF THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS  
IN WASHINGTON, D. C., ON 18 JULY 1974  
BY  
ROBERT P. VAN DYKE, GENERAL MANAGER

At the House of Representatives Subcommittee on Water and Power Resources Field Hearing held in San Antonio, Texas, on 22 June 1973 and at the Congressional Hearing on the Cibolo Project held by the Water and Power Resources Subcommittee of the House Interior Committee in Washington, D. C., on 7 March 1974 I presented statements and testimony on behalf of the City Water Board supporting the construction of the Cibolo Reservoir. This information is a matter of record.

I do not wish to be redundant, but I must again state that San Antonio must seek early development of surface water supplies to supplement its current ground water supply if its future municipal and industrial water requirements are to be assured. It is the responsibility of the City Water Board to develop plans and projects at the lowest possible cost to the citizens of San Antonio to insure that the City of San Antonio will not suffer a water supply crisis at any time in the future.

The Water Works Board of Trustees, which is the official governing body of the City Water Board and the official spokesman for the City of San Antonio on water matters, reaffirmed its interest in the authorization of a Federal project for the construction of the Cibolo Reservoir by Resolution dated 21 May 1974, a copy of which is attached.

The City Water Board deeply appreciates the opportunity the Committee has provided to present its testimony today, and it wishes to thank Senator John Tower and Senator Lloyd Bentson and all of the members of the Committee for the time and consideration you have each devoted to the Cibolo Project. Your positive assistance and help are greatly needed to get this Federal project authorized.

## A RESOLUTION

REAFFIRMING THE INTEREST OF THE WATER WORKS BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SAN ANTONIO IN THE AUTHORIZATION OF A FEDERAL PROJECT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CIBOLO RESERVOIR; INSTRUCTING THE GENERAL MANAGER OF THE BOARD TO FILE APPLICATIONS WITH THE TEXAS WATER RIGHTS COMMISSION FOR APPROPRIATIONS OR ALLOCATIONS OF SURFACE WATER TO MEET THE NEEDS OF SAN ANTONIO, ACQUISITION OF WHICH SHALL BE MADE AT THE TIME AND IN THE AMOUNT NEEDED AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE COST TO THE CITIZENS OF SAN ANTONIO; AND MAKING THE STAFF PRESENTATION REGARDING SURFACE WATER PRESENTED TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AT ITS MAY 1974 MEETING A PART HEREOF.

WHEREAS, the Texas Water Plan projects that San Antonio will need a surface water supply of approximately 111,000 acre-feet by the year 2000; and

WHEREAS, the Board's consultants are in agreement with such projections; and

WHEREAS, the Board has great concern for both the cost and availability of surface water to meet its long range needs; and

WHEREAS, the Board has, therefore, determined that it must give first priority to those surface water supplies that are the least costly to the citizens of the community as well as to those supplies which can be obtained in adequate time and quantity to meet the community's needs; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Cibolo Project of the San Antonio River Authority is one of the various available potential sources of surface supply for San Antonio; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WATER WORKS BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SAN ANTONIO:

1. The Board reaffirms its interest in the authorization of a federal project for the construction of the Cibolo Reservoir to develop a surface water supply for the San Antonio community and for other cities.

2. The General Manager is instructed to file applications with the Texas Water Rights Commission for appropriations or allocations of 111,000 acre-feet of surface water per annum needed by San Antonio. Upon authorization of the needed appropriations or allocations acquisition shall be made at the time and in the amount needed at the lowest possible cost to the citizens of San Antonio.

3. The cost, quantity, and timing of surface water acquisition as presented by staff to the Board of Trustees at its regular meeting of May 14, 1974 is made a part hereof.

4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately from and after passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May, 1974.

John M. Schaefer  
John M. Schaefer, Chairman

ATTEST:

Martha L. Hawkins  
Martha L. Hawkins, Secretary

STATEMENT OF THE TEXAS WATER CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION  
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE HEARING ON THE  
CIBOLO PROJECT, OF TEXAS  
BEING HELD BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER  
AND POWER RESOURCES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS  
IN WASHINGTON, D.C., JULY 18, 1974

Mr. Chairman. Members of the Subcommittee.

Since I am unable to be present for this important hearing before the Subcommittee of Water and Power Resources, I have asked Mr. Fred Pfeiffer, the General Manager of the San Antonio River Authority of Texas and a member of the Board of Directors of the Texas Water Conservation Association to present this brief statement by the Texas Water Conservation Association in support of the Cibolo Project in Texas.

The Texas Water Conservation Association appreciates this opportunity to testify on behalf of this vital project---vital to the City of San Antonio, one of Texas' major metropolitan areas, and its environs and vital to the State of Texas. For more than thirty years, the Texas Water Conservation Association has consistently supported the development, conservation, and wise use of Texas' meager water resources. Representatives of our Association have through the years testified before the appropriate Senate committees and those of the House of Representatives on behalf of water resource projects in Texas as we sought to develop, conserve, and use these resources for the benefit of the people of Texas and the Nation.

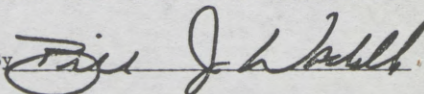
I have been privileged to read the official views of the State of Texas, which have been presented to this Committee by Governor Briscoe, in support of the Cibolo Project and the testimony of the San Antonio River Authority presented today by Mr. Pfeiffer. In the interest of conserving the Committee's time, I will not repeat nor elaborate upon what has been previously said. The Texas Water Conservation Association unequivocally concurs with the views expressed by Governor Briscoe and by Mr. Pfeiffer regarding the necessity of early and speedy authorization of construction of the Cibolo Project. The Texas Water Conservation Association believes Governor Briscoe and Mr. Pfeiffer have stated clearly and concisely the urgent need for this project.

The Texas Water Conservation Association is appreciative of the untiring efforts of this Committee on behalf of our State and Nation and is grateful to each of you for the great service you are rendering.

Respectfully submitted

Texas Water Conservation Association

By

  
General Manager



## County of Karnes

B. A. HARTMAN

COUNTY JUDGE

KARNES CITY, TEXAS 78118

July 10, 1974

Honorable Frank Church, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Water and Power Resources  
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs  
United States Senate  
3106 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20510

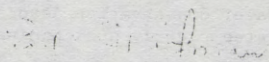
Dear Sir:

I understand that a hearing will be held before your Committee on July 18, 1974, concerning the dam on the Cibolo River in Wilson County, Texas.

We, in Karnes County are very interested in this project since it will furnish water to two of our towns in Karnes County, Kenedy and Karnes City.

We therefore would like to see this project funded at an early date.

Sincerely yours,

  
B. A. Hartman  
County Judge  
Karnes County, Texas

## CITY OF KARNES CITY

CITY HALL BUILDING - 314 EAST CALVERT

E. J. NOVOSAD, MAYOR  
 NELSON NOSTER, COMMISSIONER  
 BENHARDT AHRENS, COMMISSIONER  
 CHARLES R. TIEMANN, CITY CLERK

PHONE 512-780-3422

KARNES CITY, TEXAS 78118

July 11, 1974

Honorable Frank Church, Chairman  
 Subcommittee on Water and Power Resources of the Senate  
 Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs  
 United States Senate  
 3106 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
 Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Church:

The City Commission of the City of Karnes City, Texas unanimously endorses the construction of the proposed Cibolo Creek Reservoir Project located about 30 miles southeast of San Antonio in Wilson County, Texas

This project would conserve water and supply additional municipal and industrial water to San Antonio, Kenedy and Karnes City. Karnes City at the present has four (4) water wells providing water for a city of 3,000 people. We will need additional water shortly. Our present water wells have been supplying water from 8 years to 50 years. One cannot determine just how long each well will continue to produce a sufficient amount of water. Just last year two of our wells had to be reworked at a cost of over \$12,500.00 to our Municipal Water Department. Sometimes an old well cannot be repaired. This necessitates the drilling of a new well at a cost of many thousands of dollars.

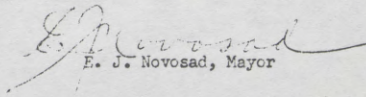
The Cibolo Reservoir Project would retard flood waters, provide flood control and fish and wild life conservation.

The project would also provide recreational facilities for the people residing in this area. Our people are now driving from 50 to 100 miles to lakes and dams of this kind which provide them with recreational facilities that the Cibolo Reservoir would provide.

The City Commission of the City of Karnes City recommends your authorized approval of this project and we urge that appropriations be made to fund the construction of the Cibolo Reservoir Project. A favorable recommendation from this Senate Subcommittee will be greatly appreciated.

This statement is submitted in letter form as it is impossible to appear in person at the July 18th hearing.

Yours truly,

  
E. J. Novosad, Mayor

cc: Honorable Lloyd Benson  
cc: Honorable John G. Tower  
cc: Honorable Abraham Kazen  
cc: Honorable Eligio de la Garza  
cc: Mr. Fred N. Pfeiffer

## CITY OF KENEDY

P. O. BOX 539

KENEDY, TEXAS 78119

July 10, 1974

Honorable Frank Church, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Water and Power Resources of the Senate  
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs  
United States Senate  
3106 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Church:

Re: S.B. 3568, Cibolo Reservoir Project

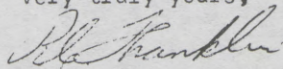
As Mayor of the City of Kenedy I wish to go on record confirming that the City of Kenedy is in favor of the Cibolo Reservoir Project, both from an economic and an environmental standpoint. We feel strongly enough about it that we passed a resolution in favor of it, a copy of which is attached for your information.

With the underground water supply diminishing, the need for upstream flood control, and the demand for recreational facilities, there is little doubt that construction of the project is economically reasonable.

An additional problem that we face which could be solved by the construction of this dam, is the continual build up of minerals and chlorides in our water that makes an alternate source of water imperative.

We strongly urge your favorable consideration of the Cibolo Project.

Very truly yours,



R. C. Franklin  
Mayor

cc: Honorable Lloyd Bentsen  
Honorable John Tower  
Honorable Abraham Kazen  
Honorable Kika delaGarza

# CITY OF KENEDY

P. O. BOX 539

KENEDY, TEXAS 78119

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## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS an adequate supply of water is essential not only for sustenance and comfort of man, animal, and plant life, but also for the growth of a community and the development of other resources, AND

WHEREAS the underground water table is diminishing, AND

WHEREAS there is a need for upstream water control to prevent damaging and devastating floods from inundating our city, AND

WHEREAS there is an ever increasing need for recreational facilities and habitat for fish and wildlife,

BE IT NOW THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT

1. The Board of Commissioners of the City of Kenedy heartily endorses the Cibolo Creek Water Supply and Flood Control Project and that every effort be made to begin construction as early as possible, and that

2. The City of Kenedy requests that the Alamo Area Council of Governments Executive Committee adopt a resolution pertaining to the Cibolo Project as requested by the Alamo Area Resource and Conservation Development Steering Committee.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS THE 22nd DAY OF APRIL 1974.

/S/ R. C. Franklin  
Mayor

## KARNES COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT

P. O. BOX 450

KENEDY, TEXAS 78119

TELEPHONE: (512) 583-3751

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DR. H. J. BONNSTETTER, PRESIDENT  
JACK E. BRANIFF, VICE PRESIDENT  
CALLAN JONAS, SECRETARY-TREASURER  
W. D. HAMILTON  
G. E. KNOLL  
PAUL BORDOVSKY  
ANTON S. DZIUK

July 12, 1974

Honorable Frank Church, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Water & Power Resources of the Senate  
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs  
United State Senate  
3106 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Sir:

We wish to inform you that we support S.B. 3568 introduced by Senator Lloyd M. Bentsen on June 3, 1974 for authorization of the Cibolo Reservoir Project.

The Karnes County Hospital District embraces the total area of Karnes County and this project would greatly benefit the water supply of the new Otto Kaiser Memorial Hospital, which is under construction midway between Karnes City and Kenedy, Texas and will serve all of the citizens of Karnes County.

Sincerely yours,

KARNES COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT

Dr. H. J. Bonnstetter  
President

HJB/lg

Mr. PFEIFFER. Mr. Chairman, I would also like to introduce Commissioner Gresham Akin, from Wilson County, who has statements from Wilson County, and from cities in Wilson County.

He is also a member of the executive committee of the Alamo Area Council of Governments, the regional clearing agency in this area. I would like to introduce him.

Senator FANNIN. Will you please do so? We are very pleased to have you with us this morning.

**STATEMENT OF GRESHAM AKIN, COMMISSIONER, WILSON COUNTY;  
ACCOMPANIED BY COMMISSIONERS JOE ESTRADA, PRECINCT 1,  
LEONARD ROTTER, PRECINCT 2, AND MARK JOHNSON, PRECINCT 3**

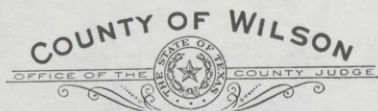
Commissioner AKIN. Thank you, Mr. Pfeiffer. I have three other commissioners from Wilson County at this time. Mr. Joe Estrada, commissioner, precinct 1; Mr. Leonard Rotter, precinct 2 of Wilson County; Mr. Mark Johnson, precinct 3 of Wilson County.

Senator FANNIN. Gentlemen, we are pleased to have you with us this morning.

Commissioner AKIN. I have with me statements from Wilson County, from the city of Stockdale, the city of Poth, the city of Floresville, and from Alamo Area Council of Governments. I am a member of the executive committee.

If it meets with your approval, I won't take the time to read these. We have presented these statements to the staff.

Senator FANNIN. The statements will be made a part of the record. [The material referred to above follows:]



JUDGE D. RICHARD VOGES  
P. O. BOX 698  
FLORESVILLE, TEXAS 78114

RESOLUTION

CONCERNING THE CIBOLO RESERVOIR PROJECT

TO

Honorable Frank Church, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Water and Power Resources  
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs  
United States Senate - Washington, D.C.

WHEREAS, the proposed Cibolo Reservoir Project will be totally within the boundaries of Wilson County, and

WHEREAS, Commissioners' Court of Wilson County, after a full review procedure, including public announcement and hearings, acted upon the need for the proposed Cibolo Reservoir Project; and

WHEREAS, the Cibolo Reservoir Project can alleviate current flooding conditions; and  
WHEREAS, timely construction is imperative if a water crisis is to be averted; and  
WHEREAS, the Cibolo Reservoir Project will serve as a needed water resource and a regional recreation project; and

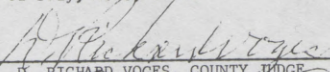
WHEREAS, the Economic Development Administration had proclaimed Wilson County as a redevelopment area, the Cibolo Reservoir Project will serve to enhance the economic growth and stability of Wilson County, and

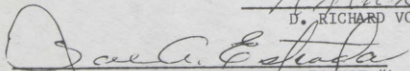
WHEREAS, the above testimony was provided to the Subcommittee on Water and Power Resources on June 22, 1973 in San Antonio; and

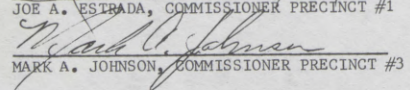
WHEREAS, the above testimony was provided by Resolution to the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Water and Power Resources on March 7, 1974 at its hearing in Washington, D. C.,

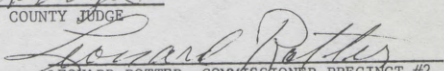
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Commissioners' Court of the County of Wilson affirms its support of the proposed Cibolo Reservoir Project and requests that the project be authorized and funded within the immediate future as an essential project.

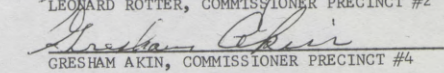
Witness the Seal and Signatures of the members of Commissioners' Court of Wilson County, Texas, on this the 11th day of July, A.D., 1974.

  
D. RICHARD VOGES, COUNTY JUDGE

  
JOE A. ESTRADA, COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #1

  
MARK A. JOHNSON, COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #3

  
LEONARD ROTTER, COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #2

  
GRESHAM AKIN, COMMISSIONER PRECINCT #4

H. R. DETTMAN, MAYOR

PAULINE HUMPHRIES, SECRETARY

CITY COUNCIL:

INEZ BAKER  
BEN DEASON  
J. W. JORDAN  
JAMES SHAVER  
E. L. TEWES

## City of Stockdale

STOCKDALE, TEXAS 78160

July 11, 1974

Honorable Frank Church, Chairman  
 Sub-Committee on Water & Power Resources  
 Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs  
 United States Senate  
 3106 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

On behalf of our city officials and residents of this area, I would like to express our interest in the Cibolo creek project which has been in the planning stage for many years. We are most anxious to see this become a reality.

It is the opinion of people in this section that the lake which would be created through means of the Cibolo dam would be of great benefit to this area of Texas. It would be a means of conserving and storing needed water as well as providing a place of recreation which is truly needed.

We do appreciate the time and effort expended by so many individuals and groups on this plan and we thank each of them. We are eagerly looking forward to the completion of this undertaking which should prove to be beneficial for many people.

Sincerely yours,

*Henry R. Dettman*  
 Mayor

ph

# City of Poth

P. O. BOX 437

POTH, TEXAS 78147

## RESOLUTION

CONCERNING THE CIBOLO RESERVOIR PROJECT

TO

Honorable Frank Church, Chariman  
Subcommittee on Water and Power Resources  
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs  
United States Senate - Washington, D.C.

WHEREAS, the proposed Cibolo Reservoir Project will be totally within the boundaries of Wilson County, and

WHEREAS, Commissioners' Court of Wilson County, after a full review procedure, including public announcement and hearing, acted upon the need for the proposed Cibolo Reservoir Project; and

WHEREAS, the Cibolo Reservoir Project can alleviate current flooding conditions; and

WHEREAS, timely construction is imperative if a water crisis is to be averted; and

WHEREAS, the Cibolo Reservoir Project will serve as a needed water resource and a regional recreation project; and

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Administration had proclaimed Wilson County as a redevelopment area, the Cibolo Reservoir Project will serve to enhance the economic growth and stability of Wilson County, and

WHEREAS, the above testimony was provided to the Subcommittee on Water and Power Resources on June 22, 1973 in San Antonio; and

WHEREAS, the above testimony was provided by Resolution to the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Water and Power Resources on March 7, 1974 at its hearing in Washington, D.C.,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of Poth, County of Wilson affirms its support of the proposed Cibolo Reservoir Project and requests that the project be authorized and funded within the immediate future as an essential project.

Witness the Seal of Signatures of the members of the City Council of Poth, County of Wilson County, Texas, on this the 11th day of July, A.D., 1974.

A. D. Kollodziej, Jr.  
A. D. Kollodziej, Jr., Mayor

Johanne Polasek  
Johanne Polasek Councilman

Gilbert Reinhard  
Gilbert Reinhard Councilman

Lee Roy Reininger  
Lee Roy Reininger Councilman

Victor Stavinoha  
Victor Stavinoha Councilman

RESOLUTION

CONCERNING THE CIBOLO RESERVOIR PROJECT

WHEREAS, the City of Floresville and the surrounding area will be affected economically by the development of the Cibilo Creek Reservoir.

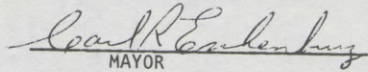
WHEREAS, this area has been declared an economically depressed area.

WHEREAS, the additional water resources are needed for the surrounding area.

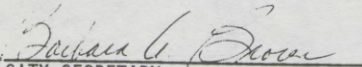
WHEREAS, Recreational facilities are badly needed.

Be it therefore resolved that the City Council of the City of Floresville go on record unanimously supporting the Cibilo Creek Reservoir Dam project.

RESOLVED THIS THE 11th day of July, 1974.

  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
CITY SECRETARY

RESOLUTION  
 CONCERNING THE CIBOLO RESERVOIR PROJECT

to

Subcommittee on Water and Power Resources  
 Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs  
 United States Senate

WHEREAS, the Alamo Area Council of Governments on May 24, 1972, after a full review procedure, including public announcements and hearings, acted upon the need for the proposed Cibolo Reservoir Project, and

WHEREAS, the Alamo Area Council of Governments' current water resource plan calls for the construction of the Cibolo Reservoir Project as an essential need for the Region, and should be on line no later than 1980, and

WHEREAS, the AACOG Open Space Plan re-emphasizes the need for the Cibolo Reservoir as both a needed water resource and a regional recreation project, and

WHEREAS, the Cibolo Reservoir Project can alleviate current flooding conditions, and

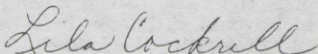
WHEREAS, timely construction is imperative if a water crisis is to be averted, and,

WHEREAS, the above testimony was provided by Resolution to the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Water and Power Resources on March 7, 1974 at its hearing in Washington, D.C.,

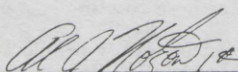
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alamo Area Council of Governments re-affirms its support of the proposed Cibolo Reservoir Project and urgently requests that the project be authorized and funded within the immediate future as an essential project.

Witness the Signature of the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Alamo Area Council of Governments, on this the 10<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1974

ALAMO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

  
 MRS. LILA COCKRELL, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

  
 Al J. Notzon, III  
 Executive Director

Commissioner AKIN. I would like to reaffirm one statement that you asked Mr. Burleigh about organized opposition. You might find a half dozen people so far who said, "Well, we don't want it."

In the last few days, since the statement came out, we were coming up here, I had more people approach me who live in the area where the reservoir would be saying, "Let's get this bill. We need it."

And the people in the area feel that this should be acted on at the earliest possible dates.

Senator FANNIN. Very good. Thank you very much. Mr. Pfeiffer, do you have anything further?

Mr. PFEIFFER. No, sir.

Senator FANNIN. We thank you very much for your testimony. We want to commend the authority for their willingness to accept responsibility for their part of the project. I earlier stated that I am very pleased to see this joint effort be made.

Certainly, the authority is to be highly commended.

Mr. PFEIFFER. Thank you, sir.

Senator FANNIN. Thank you very much, gentlemen.

[Subsequent to the hearing the following information was received:]

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY CENTER,  
Washington, D.C., July 20, 1974.

Sen. FRANK CHURCH,  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Water and Power Resources, Senate Interior Committee,  
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Environmental Policy Center would like to submit the following statement for the record on S. 3568 which authorizes construction of the Cibolo Project in Texas. This is the testimony which we gave to the House Interior Committee when it considered similar legislation and it is equally applicable to S. 3568.

Thank you for the consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

BRENT BLACKWELDER,  
Washington Representative.

TESTIMONY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY CENTER AND THE SIERRA CLUB  
ON THE CIBOLO RESERVOIR PROJECT, TEXAS, BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE  
ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

This testimony is offered on behalf of the Sierra Club and the Environmental Policy concerning the Cibolo Reservoir Project and bills H.R. 11177 and H.R. 1406 which would authorize the construction of this project. We are opposed to the Cibolo Project for the following basic reasons:

(1) We believe in maintaining free-flowing rivers which are an ever diminishing resource in their natural condition free of impoundments.

(2) We believe that it is unwise to use projects like these to stimulate growth in water short areas.

(3) We believe in alternative ways of dealing with water supply problems such as the use of recycling and the institution of proper pricing policies to control demand.

(4) We feel that this project does not live up to the requirements set in the new Principles and Standards for Planning Water and Related Land Resource Projects which were put into effect last October 25 by the Water Resources Council.

(1) We are opposed to the Cibolo Project because of the environmental damage that would occur as a result of its construction. The Bureau of Reclamation admits that the dam would eliminate 24 miles of fish habitat in Cibolo Creek and destroy 10,000 acres of upland game habitat. Furthermore, an average annual reduction of 30,000 acre-feet in flow to the San Antonio Estuary will occur according to the Bureau of Reclamation. This constitutes 2% of the historic average flow from 1941 to 1965.

(2) The environmental damage to be occasioned by this dam project is likely to be just the beginning of a detrimental sequence of reservoirs in the entire basin.

A vicious circle of growth followed by even greater demand followed by additional reservoir construction followed by more growth is a real possibility for this area of the country. We feel that it is time to step back and see if it's really desirable to encourage growth in water short areas. The net result of continued growth will be declining environmental quality for the area with the detrimental impacts being felt all the way to the San Antonio Estuary.

(3) Given our objections to the reservoir and our opposition to continued growth, what can be done about the water supply situation? We feel that alternative solutions to the water supply problem should be sought along the following lines: a) the establishment of proper pricing policies to curtail wasteful uses of water, b) the installation of water saving devices, c) the preservation of the recharge area for the Edwards Underground Aquifer, and d) the implementation of recycling of water wherever feasible. The prestigious National Water Commission recommended in its final report to Congress last June, 1973, that we stop placing so much emphasis on building more reservoirs for water supply and start looking at the demand side of the question.

The Commission specifically urged communities to reform their pricing policies for water and to examine the savings that could occur through installation of water-saving devices and the use of recycled water for such things as golf course watering.

(4) Last October, the Water Resources Council put into effect new Principles and Standards governing the planning of water resource projects. The Principles and Standards have been slightly amended by the Water Resources Development Act of 1974 just signed by the President, but this is only in connection with the discount rate. We wish to focus the Committee's attention on another important aspect of the new Principles and Standards; namely, the requirement that agencies develop alternative plans for meeting the water resource needs of a given area, including one plan which makes a primary contribution to the environmental quality objective which has been made coequal with the old objective of national economic development. We think it is essential that the Bureau of Reclamation provide much more fully explored alternatives for dealing with the water resource needs of the San Antonio area. Then instead of presenting the Committee with a project on a "take it or leave it" basis, the Bureau would lay out before the Committee several feasible alternatives and allow Congress to make a selection. It is thus conceivable that a plan embodying some of the suggestions we have made for handling the water supply situation along with nonstructural plans for dealing with flood control would be chosen by Congress.

In conclusion, we urge this Committee not to authorize this project but rather to direct the Bureau of Reclamation to make a more thorough investigation of project alternatives in accordance with the new Principles and Standards and then to report back to the Committee.

---

CITY OF LA VERNIA,  
La Vernia, Tex., July 12, 1974.

Hon. JOHN G. TOWER,  
U.S. Senate, Senate Office Building,  
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: This is to advise you that the city of La Vernia, unanimously, continues to support the Cibolo Reservoir project as we have since its inception.

The City of La Vernia will be the gateway to the reservoir from the city of San Antonio. We therefore believe that it will have great economic impact on our city, which is definitely needed.

The additional water supply in this part of Texas is also needed along with flood control.

Please enter our plea in favor of this project at the senate hearing.

Sincerely yours,

EWALD KOEPP, Jr.,  
Mayor.

Senator FANNIN. We will now proceed to consideration of S. 3740, a bill to amend the act of August 16, 1962, authorizing construction, operation, and maintenance of the Fryingspan-Arkansas project in Colorado, to provide for the incorporation of pumped storage hydroelectric facilities.

Commissioner Stamm, if you and your associates will return to the witness table. I have a statement by Senator Dominick on S. 3740. I also have a request from Senator Haskell, who is unavoidably absent due to illness in his family, that his statement be included in the record. I would like to have them inserted in the record at this point along with the text of S. 3740 and the Department report.

[The text of S. 3740, the Department report, and statements from Senators Haskell and Dominick follow:]

93<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# S. 3740

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 9, 1974

Mr. HASKELL (for himself and Mr. DOMINICK) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

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## A BILL

To amend the Act of August 16, 1962, authorizing construction, operation, and maintenance of the Fryingpan-Arkansas project, Colorado, to provide for the incorporation of pumped storage hydroelectric facilities, and for other purposes.

- 1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2        *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3        That for the purpose of increasing the hydroelectric gen-  
4        erating capacity the Secretary of the Interior is authorized  
5        to construct, operate, and maintain a second 100-megawatt  
6        unit at the Mount Elbert pumped storage powerplant site  
7        of the Fryingpan-Arkansas project, Colorado. The funds  
8        required to construct such unit are included in the amount  
9        authorized to be appropriated by section 2 of this Act.

1        SEC. 2. Section 7 of the Act of August 16, 1962 (76  
2 Stat. 389) is hereby amended by striking out "\$170,000,000  
3 (June 1961 prices)" and inserting instead "\$432,000,000  
4 (January 1974 prices)".



## United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

JUL 17 1974

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This responds to your request for the views of this Department on S. 3740 a bill "To amend the Act authorizing the Fryingpan-Arkansas Federal reclamation project, Colorado, in order to increase the amount authorized for such project (Act of August 16, 1962; 76 Stat. 389) and to authorize construction of a second one hundred-megawatt unit at the Mount Elbert pumped storage powerplant site of such project."

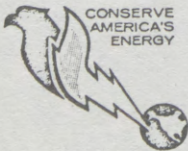
We recommend that the bill be enacted, if amended as set forth herein to limit the increased level of authorized appropriations to \$370 million (January 1974 prices).

The bill would increase the authorized appropriations for the Fryingpan-Arkansas Federal reclamation project in Colorado from \$170 million (June 1961 prices) to \$432 million (January 1974 prices). (In January 1974 prices, this increase would be from about \$342 million to \$432 million). The bill would also authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct, operate and maintain a second one hundred-megawatt unit at the Mount Elbert pumped storage powerplant site of the Fryingpan-Arkansas project.

The Fryingpan-Arkansas project authorizing legislation established a \$170 million appropriation ceiling with adjustments for fluctuations in construction costs. Section 4 of that legislation also authorized appropriation of the additional sums necessary for recreation and fish and wildlife and scenery conservation. Subsequently P.L. 87-874 authorized certain highway improvements in connection with the project.

Attached hereto is a summary statement of project costs based on January 1974 prices. As it indicates, an additional appropriation authorization of \$28,000,000 is required for the installation of the second one-hundred megawatt powerplant unit and we support increasing the level of authorized appropriations to cover that amount.

The bill would, however, also include an additional \$62,000,000 appropriation authorization to cover the additional cost of municipal and industrial delivery facilities which are part of the project.



*Save Energy and You Serve America!*

This increase is associated with the increased capacities of the delivery systems and modifications to the systems to serve more entities than originally anticipated. The project authorizing legislation required that the Secretary of the Interior determine before proceeding with each part of the single-purpose municipal and industrial water supply works involved in the project that it would be infeasible for the communities involved to construct the works themselves, either singly or jointly. Although the Secretary of the Interior made such a finding on December 5, 1969, sufficient time has passed so that we believe it would be appropriate for the Secretary to make a new determination as to feasibility before further funds are authorized. We therefore recommend that the \$62,000,000 for the cost of additional municipal and industrial facilities not be authorized and that the bill be amended by striking the figure \$432,000,000 and inserting in lieu the figure \$370,000,000.

With respect to the second one-hundred megawatt Mt. Elbert powerplant unit, the Bureau of Reclamation has undertaken a power marketing study which concludes that a satisfactory market exists for that unit's electricity and that its orderly completion would contribute toward meeting the area's energy requirements.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Bureau of Reclamation has prepared a draft environmental impact statement on the overall Fryingpan-Arkansas project. This statement was released to the public on March 18, 1974, and public hearings were held in Aspen and Pueblo, Colorado in May 1974. The final statement is expected to be complete by January 1975. In addition, final environmental impact statements have been prepared and filed with the Council on Environmental Quality on three specific project features -- the Mount Elbert Pumped-Storage Powerplant (filed October 19, 1971), the Pueblo Dam and Reservoir (filed June 2, 1972) and the Northside Collection System (filed July 19, 1973). The environmental impact statement for the Mount Elbert Pumped-Storage Powerplant covers the plant facilities and installation of both the first unit which is under construction and the second unit which would be authorized by S. 3740.

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

Sincerely yours,

Assistant

*Jack Horton*  
Secretary of the Interior

Honorable Henry M. Jackson  
Chairman, Committee on  
Interior and Insular Affairs  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Summary of Current Appropriations Ceiling Based on Jan 1, 1974 PricesP.L. 87-590 Section 7

Authorized Amount (June 1961 prices)	\$170,000,000	
Additional Cost Index to January 1974 prices	<u>172,000,000</u>	
Subtotal		342,000,000

Additional Ceiling Required

Additional cost ceiling required for installation of the second 100 megawatts	28,000,000	
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Additional cost ceiling required for the municipal and industrial delivery	<u>62,000,000</u>	
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Subtotal		<u>90,000,000</u>
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Project Cost Ceiling (January 1974 prices)		\$432,000,000
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P.L. 87-590 Section 4

Recreation	33,000,000	
Fish and Wildlife	10,000,000	
Scenery Conservation	<u>24,000,000</u>	

Subtotal		67,000,000
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P.L. 87-874

Highway Improvements		<u>2,000,000</u>
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Total Estimated Project Cost		\$501,000,000
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STATEMENT OF HON. PETER H. DOMINICK, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF COLORADO

Mr. Chairman. As a cosponsor of S. 3740, I wish to add my support to an amendment of the Act of August 16, 1962, which authorized the construction, operation and maintenance of the Fryingpan-Arkansas project in Colorado.

I have supported the Fry-Ark project since its inception. The Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District, created in 1958 in accordance with Colorado Revised Statutes, is the legal agency which has the repayment contract with the United States to repay the reimbursable portions of the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project. This District represents parts of nine counties in Southeastern Colorado.

It would be difficult to over-emphasize the importance of the Fry-Ark project to the people and communities of this area of Colorado. The project provides water for municipal, agricultural and industrial use.

The bill which is the subject of this hearing would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct, operate and maintain a second 100-megawatt unit at the Mount Elbert pumped storage powerplant site.

The other provision in this bill would increase the prior authorization from \$170 million to \$432 million. This is necessary due to the greatly increased costs of the project. These funds represent a sound investment in a project that will repay itself many times over and assist in the development of a stronger economic base in Southeastern Colorado.

I urge speedy consideration of the bill.

---

STATEMENT OF HON. FLOYD K. HASKELL, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF COLORADO

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Subcommittee, I am sorry I am unable to be present today during the hearing on S. 3740, a bill I introduced on July 9, 1974. A family emergency has made it impossible for me to attend.

First let me thank the Chairman of the Subcommittee, The Honorable Frank Church of Idaho, for the prompt and careful consideration he and the members of his staff have given this matter.

In brief, the bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to construct, operate and maintain a second 100-megawatt unit as a part of the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project in Colorado. In addition the bill amends the original authorization ceiling to provide funds needed due to increased costs of the project and expansion of the originally proposed diversion canals.

I cannot stress too strongly my support for this measure and my belief that action should be favorable. The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs in the House of Representatives has already acted favorably on legislation introduced by my colleague from Colorado, Mr. Evans, and has incorporated his bill as Title XII of the Omnibus Reclamation Development Act of 1974.

The Fryingpan-Arkansas project, currently under construction by the Bureau of Reclamation, was first authorized August 16, 1962. The dam, situated west of Pueblo, Colorado in the Colorado River Basin on the west side of the Continental Divide, backs up water which is diverted to the Arkansas River Basin on the east side of the divide. The water is then transported through the Mount Elbert Canal to the Mount Elbert pumped storage powerplant on Twin Lakes Reservoir.

A second unit needs to be added to that powerplant. S. 3740 provides for that second unit.

After leaving that powerplant the water is eventually returned to the Arkansas River. Downstream a proposed Fountain Valley conduit would divert water for Colorado Springs and nearby communities. The Arkansas Valley conduit would also divert water to serve additional communities.

When complete the project will provide needed water supplies for municipal, agricultural and industrial use in an expanding area of my home State. It will also provide necessary electrical power, irrigation water, flood control, and recreation opportunities.

The original Act authorized \$170 million for the construction of the project. That figure was based on June, 1961, prices and had a cost index factor built in which provided an automatically increasing authorization ceiling. By applying that escalator clause the currently authorized ceiling is \$342 million. The installation of the second 100 megawatt unit will cost \$28 million. The construction of the expand conduit system will cost \$62 million. Both of these latter figures are in January, 1974 prices.

The contracting authority, the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District, repays the reimbursable portions of the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project. The General Manager of the District, Charles L. Thomson, has prepared a statement which will detail for the Subcommittee the reimbursement plans and provisions. I understand Mr. Thomson has been coming to Washington to work on behalf of the Fry-Ark since 1953. He is certainly one of Colorado's most outstanding experts on the Project.

There is some controversy, Mr. Chairman, whether this Subcommittee should authorize the increased costs which are due to expanding the municipal and industrial water supply conduits. I believe it should.

If later evidence indicates the communities and entities served cannot undertake the construction the matter can be resolved when the funds are actually appropriated.

Thank you.

**STATEMENT OF HON. GILBERT G. STAMM, COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION; ACCOMPANIED BY JIM ELLINGBOE, CHIEF, PLANNING DIVISION, WASHINGTON, D.C.; AND ROBERT E. EVANS, PROJECT MANAGER, FRYINGPAN-ARKANSAS PROJECT, PUEBLO, COLO.**

Commissioner STAMM. Again, Mr. Chairman, I would like to have at the table with me Mr. Ellingboe, Chief of our Division of Planning in Washington and Mr. Robert E. Evans, who is project manager of the Fryingpan-Arkansas project office, in Pueblo, Colo.

Senator FANNIN. Gentlemen, we are pleased to have you with us.

Commissioner STAMM. Mr. Evans will take about 2 minutes to point out the principal features of the Fryingpan-Arkansas project.

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Chairman, the water supply for the Fryingpan-Arkansas project is generated in our collection system, which lies near the top [south] of the Rocky Mountains, just west of the Continental Divide.

The water is diverted into a system of tunnels which cross the small tributary streams of the Fryingpan River flowing west. The diverted water flows by gravity through a transmountain tunnel into storage at Turquoise Lake, near Leadville, Colo. From here the water is diverted at that point into a conduit and through the Mt. Elbert pump storage powerplant into Twin Lakes. We are presently installing one 100-megawatt unit in the plant.

The second unit is the subject of this legislation.

The water is then diverted to a second powerplant at Clear Creek Reservoir. From the reservoir water is diverted into the Arkansas River, and flows about 150 miles down the Arkansas River to the Pueblo Dam. At Canyon City we are proposing the Fountain Valley conduit, which will divert water from the river and carry a municipal and industrial supply of water into the cities of Colorado Springs, Security, Fountain, Widefield and other adjoining communities.

The remainder of the flow goes into Pueblo Reservoir, located just outside the city of Pueblo, where it will be reregulated for use in the Arkansas Valley east of Pueblo.

We propose a second conduit, which will deliver a municipal water supply to serve the communities in the Arkansas Valley. The remaining supply of water will be released into the river and diverted downstream by existing ditch companies for use in supplemental irrigation of presently irrigated land in the Arkansas Valley.

Senator FANNIN. Mr. Evans, how much of a lift is it from the inlet at the Fountain Valley conduit, and the outlet?

Mr. EVANS. We have a total static head of about 1,680 feet to overcome in getting water from the river over the hilly country into the city of Colorado Springs.

Senator FANNIN. Thank you, sir.

Commissioner STAMM. Mr. Chairman, we are here today to offer the Department's views on S. 3740, which is a measure to amend Public Law 87-590, for the purpose of increasing the amount authorized for construction of the Fryingpan-Arkansas project which is located in south-central Colorado and to authorize construction of a second 100-megawatt unit at the Mt. Elbert pumped storage powerplant site.

The Department's position recommending enactment of S. 3740 with amendments is presented in a letter to the chairman of the committee. Public Law 87-590 requires that all reimbursable costs be repaid within a period of 50 years following completion of project construction.

It also established an appropriation ceiling of \$170 million, adjusted for fluctuations in construction costs as indicated by engineering cost indices, plus such additional sums as may be required to investigate, plan, construct, operate and maintain public facilities for recreation, fish and wildlife, and scenery conservation incurred under section 4 of the act.

Section 7 of Public Law 87-590 authorized an amount of \$170 million for construction of the Fryingpan-Arkansas project based on June 1961 prices. Application of the cost index factor for January 1974, price levels raised the total authorized appropriations to \$342 million.

The installation of the second 100-megawatt unit and construction of the expanded municipal and industrial water delivery system would require an increase in the authorized ceiling of \$90 million to \$432 million. The Department supports an increase of \$28 million to cover the added power features, but desires to defer support of the \$62 million for the municipal and industrial system pending restudy and recertification of the finding required by section 1(c) of Public Law 87-590.

Assuming the municipal and industrial conveyance system were to be built, the total project cost estimate of \$501 million would be comprised of the \$432 million, which is subject to ceiling restrictions, plus \$69 million of section 4 and highway improvement costs.

Without the municipal and industrial system, the total estimated cost is \$403 million. In March 1967, the Bureau of Reclamation reported to this committee by letter on its postauthorization planning for the project's power system.

The plan described in that letter provided for the construction of two powerplants. One, Mount Elbert pumped storage powerplant with 100 megawatts of initial installed capacity and provisions for the later installation of a second 100-megawatt pumpback generating unit, and, two, Otero powerplant, with 11 megawatts of installed capacity.

It was also noted in the report that the costs of the second 100-megawatt unit at Mount Elbert pumped storage powerplant when added to the other estimated project costs would exceed the appropriation ceiling.

At that time, we indicated that the initial 100-megawatt unit would be installed and the second 100-megawatt unit would be deferred until a market for the power developed. We further indicated that congressional authorization to cover the costs of the second unit would be sought when that market developed.

This testimony updates and explains changes that have occurred since March of 1967 in support of the request for an increase in the appropriation ceiling for the project. The power market has expanded because of a broader based need for peaking power and the development of power pooling and transmission facilities that permit service to a larger geographical area.

A study considering these circumstances indicates that 950 megawatts of peaking capacity for Colorado will be required by 1980. Currently, powerplants used strictly for meeting peak demands in Colorado have a total installed capacity of 444 megawatts.

The Fryngpan-Arkansas project additions of two 100-megawatt units are the only major peaking power installations currently planned in Colorado. Even with the total project peaking capacity in operation by 1980, there would still remain about 295 megawatts of peaking requirement that would need to be supplied from less efficient sources.

Five preference customers and two private utilities have expressed an interest in purchasing the project peaking power. Therefore, it is evident that a market for the second unit exists and will be utilized at the earliest date that construction can be accomplished.

Construction of Mount Elbert pumped storage powerplant, Mount Elbert Forebay, and Twin Lakes Dam enlargement will include \$7.3 million in costs specifically to accommodate the second 100-megawatt unit installation.

Of the \$7.3 million, about \$4.6 million is included in the present contract for the Mount Elbert pumped storage powerplant and will represent a sunk cost irrespective of whether or not the second unit is installed.

Installation of the second unit and appurtenant facilities would require an additional \$28 million, all of which exceeds the existing authorized ceiling. The additional incremental costs associated with installation of the second unit, exclusive of transmission costs, would amount to about \$195 per kilowatt of installed capacity.

That amount is considerably lower than comparable costs of about \$350 per kilowatt of installed capacity for coal-fired steam electric plants which have been recently constructed in the area.

It was originally estimated that about 59,000 acre-feet of the project water supply would be devoted to supplemental irrigation and about 20,500 acre-feet to municipal and industrial water supply.

It is now estimated that ultimately only about 22,200 acre-feet will be used for supplemental irrigation and about 57,300 acre-feet for municipal and industrial water supply.

Of this amount, the Fcuntain Valley would receive about 36,000 acre-feet, the Arkansas Valley about 18,300 acre-feet, and the city of Pueblo about 3,000 acre-feet. The initial use of municipal and industrial water would be about 30,000 acre-feet, which would build up to the ultimate use by the year 2020.

Water not used for municipal and industrial purposes is available and marketable for supplemental irrigation. Return flows from the

increased municipal and industrial water supply would be available for reuse for either municipal and industrial purposes or irrigation.

It has been assumed that the return flows would be primarily used for irrigation. The Fountain Valley Conduit was originally designed to deliver project water to Colorado Springs only.

The population in the area that could be served by the conduit nearly doubled between 1960 and 1970. The communities of Security and Widefield, which were not reported in the 1960 census of population, had a combined population of more than 15,000 in 1970.

As a result of that dramatic growth, a survey of the communities that could be served by the Fountain Valley conduit was made. The result indicates that the communities of Fountain, Security, Stratmoor Hills, and Widefield need project water in addition to a greatly increased demand by Colorado Springs.

The Arkansas Valley conduit was originally designed to deliver a supplemental water supply through a main line to communities between Pueblo and Lamar. Recent Colorado legislation and court decisions have made ground water supplies affecting surface water supplies subject to water-right appropriation.

Water rights of many of the communities which depend on ground water supplies are now considered to be junior to water rights of surface appropriators. Thus, these communities must look to other sources, if they are to maintain dependable water supplies.

As a result, it is now anticipated that many such communities will require a much larger proportion of their water supply from the project and that several communities not previously considered to be served by the project now require such service.

The estimated cost of the expanded municipal and industrial conduits is about \$98.3 million. Of that amount, about \$62 million exceeds the authorized appropriation ceiling under the provisions of section 7, of the authorizing act.

Section 1(c) of Public Law 87-590, which authorized the Fryingpan-Arkansas project, provides that:

No part of the single purpose municipal and industrial water supply works involved in the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project shall be constructed by the Secretary in the absence of evidence satisfactory to him that it would be infeasible for the communities involved to construct the works themselves, singly or jointly.

The Secretary of the Interior approved and adopted a report on December 5, 1969, which demonstrated that the various entities to be served by municipal and industrial delivery systems did not have the financial capability, either singly or jointly, to construct the work themselves.

Five years have elapsed since that study was completed. Therefore, the Department believes that a new study should be made to redetermine whether the local municipalities now have the ability to finance the required water works.

The project remains economically justified with the addition of the benefits and costs for the facilities that would be included in the increased appropriation ceiling. The original benefit/cost ratio was 1.48 to 1.00.

Adding power features along the new benefit/cost ratio would be 1.49 to 1.00. If municipal and industrial features were added at current costs and benefits, the benefit/cost ratio would be 1.43 to 1.00.

On either basis, repayment analyses for the project show that the project costs could be repaid within the required 50-year period with the second 100-megawatt unit installed. Without the second unit, the increase in power rates and/or municipal and industrial water supply rates would be required to achieve project payout.

A final environmental statement for the Mount Elbert Pumped Storage Powerplant was filed with the Council on Environmental Quality on October 19, 1971.

The statement included both installation of the first unit and the second unit addition proposed for authorization in S. 3740. A draft statement for the overall project was released on March 18, 1974 and public hearings were held in Aspen and Pueblo, Colo., during May 1974.

The final environmental statement is in preparation and will be filed with the Council on Environmental Quality in January 1975. In accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, construction of the second unit of the Mount Elbert powerplant requires continuation of ongoing studies and development of recommendations concerning fish and wildlife resources which might be affected by the powerplant.

The construction and operation of the powerplant will be coordinated within the Department to assure reasonable compliance with recommendations. The facilities that would be installed with the authorized increase in the appropriation ceiling are needed and supported by local interests, and by the executive branch if amended as outlined herein.

Senator FANNIN. Thank you, Commissioner. On page 5 you talk about the water rights of many of the communities are now considered to be junior to water rights of surface appropriated. Would you just expand on that, please?

Commissioner STAMM. Yes, sir. For a long time there was no requirement for ground water right filings and there was no recognized relationship with surface water right filings, which traditionally, as you know, have required filings in all Western States.

Generally first in time is first in right. But there has been ground water pumping in a number of Colorado River basins, which had an effect on the surface flow, and vice versa.

The recent State legislation has required that ground water pumpers in those localities file with the State for a water right. If the wells post date the filings for surface diversions, they become junior rights.

Therefore, it puts them in an inferior position as to their water rights. This is the case that prevails in a number of the communities in the Arkansas Valley, in particular.

Senator FANNIN. Thank you.

In regard to your testimony posing increased authorization of expanded municipal water supplies, pending a study of the ability of local entities to undertake construction, if the bill is so amended by the Congress, and later on it was determined that the communities could not do so, would the Department have to come back to the Congress for a new authorization?

Commissioner STAMM. Yes, sir. If the ceiling were not increased to cover the added costs for the pipelines that we discussed, and it was reaffirmed that the communities were not able to build the pipe-

lines or finance them themselves, it would require additional legislation to permit us to proceed.

Senator FANNIN. What would the time frame be? In other words, if not included now, what would you anticipate?

Commissioner STAMM. You mean to bring the 1969 study up to date?

Senator FANNIN. Yes.

Commissioner STAMM. I would presume that could be done in the course of several months.

Senator FANNIN. And how about construction?

Commissioner STAMM. The construction is well along. Many of the major facilities, most of them, are under construction. Some of them have been completed. In fact, water is being stored right now in Pueblo Dam, which is the last major facility other than pipelines on the eastern slope.

Senator FANNIN. But discussing the Arkansas Valley conduit, what is the time frame?

Commissioner STAMM. Oh, the conduits alone? Mr. Evans?

Mr. EVANS. The construction period for the Fountain Valley conduit would take about 3 years. We would hope to initiate construction as soon as funding could be made available. The communities have indicated they need this water supply as soon as we can complete the construction of that line.

The Arkansas Valley conduit would occupy a lower priority between the two conduits. However, the construction period time on that would also be 3 to 3½ years. The need is also great in the Arkansas Valley, because of the water quantity and quality as well as the additional communities to be served.

So we would like to begin construction there as soon as possible.

Senator FANNIN. Thank you, Mr. Evans. If S. 3740 is approved, with the increased authorization, would the Bureau undertake the study of local capabilities anyway?

Commissioner STAMM. Yes, sir. I am sure the Department would desire that, and we would certainly be willing to update that study, and reaffirm or obtain a new conclusion prior to initiating construction on these pipelines.

Senator FANNIN. Thank you. Does the Bureau consider the expansion of the M. & I. system to be within the authority granted by Public Law 87-5907?

Commissioner STAMM. Yes, sir.

Senator FANNIN. Would you supply, for the record, a breakdown of the new M. & I. facilities?

Commissioner STAMM. Yes, sir. We would be happy to do that.

[The information follows:]

FRYINGPAN-ARKANSAS PROJECT  
COLORADO

Comparison of Authorized Plan Vs. Current Plan  
for  
Fountain Valley and Arkansas Valley Conduits

<u>Item</u>	<u>Authorized Plan (1962)</u>	<u>Current Plan</u>
Fountain Valley Conduit		
Entities Served	1	5
Annual Water Requirement	10,000 ac. ft.	36,055 ac. ft.
Rate of flow	15.0 c. f. s.	50.0 c. f. s.
Conduit		
Trunkline (length)	38 mi.	38 mi.
Trunkline (diameter)	30 in.	33-54 in.
Laterals (length)	0	10.0 mi.
Laterals (diameter)	0	15 in.
Arkansas Valley Conduit		
Entities Served	8	42
Annual Water Requirement	7,500 ac. ft.	18,300 ac. ft.
Rate of flow	15 c. f. s.	38 c. f. s.
Conduit		
Trunkline (length)	107 mi.	110 mi.
Trunkline (diameter)	16-26 in.	21-42 in.
Laterals (length)	44 mi.	108 mi.
Laterals (diameter)	4-16 in.	2-24 in.

Commissioner STAMM. This is primarily an increase in capacity to serve additional customers along the line. The pipeline capacity has to be sufficient to carry roughly 54,000 acre-feet per year, in lieu of the 17,500 acre-feet originally contemplated.

So it is essentially an enlarged pipeline system with more outlets. Senator FANNIN. Some new lines?

Commissioner STAMM. Yes. Some. Because the number of customers has increased there would be additional turnouts and some extension lines. But primarily an increase in capacity.

Senator FANNIN. It is my understanding that this area of the country is not involved, so far as the development of the shale oil deposits.

Commissioner STAMM. No, sir.

Senator FANNIN. This would not in any way affect the water available for the shale oil recovery?

Commissioner STAMM. There are no oil shale deposits in the Arkansas River Valley. You might possibly, by straining, consider that the water to be used in the Arkansas Valley, coming from the western slope, could affect the supply for oil shale development.

But it is a pretty remote connection, because the water collection system is a long way from the principal oil shale deposits.

Senator FANNIN. Thank you.

Counsel has given me some questions for the Mount Elbert pumped storage plant. What would be the origin of the energy used to pump water up into the forebay?

Commissioner STAMM. Our power systems are interconnected. We have five major power systems in the West, which, incidentally, comprise the largest power system in the world.

We have 16,000 miles of transmission lines owned by the Bureau of Reclamation. There are periods of time when there is dump energy available, which is fairly low-cost, low-value power. Power required to meet peak demands is high value.

So we would use energy from the system during the periods when there is surplus, or dump energy, available, to pump the water back into the forebay. Then we would reverse the flow and run it through the turbines to generate electricity during peak power requirement periods.

Thus, we would pump with low-cost power. We would generate high-value power.

Senator FANNIN. Very good. What is the fuel type for the generating plants furnishing the energy? I think you covered that all right with your explanation. Then what is the present status of the Mount Elbert powerplant?

Commissioner STAMM. It is well under construction. I would like for Mr. EVANS to answer that, if he may.

Mr. EVANS. We have a contract for onsite constructing of the structure itself, which will accommodate the two units. The first unit is now being installed in the powerplant. The construction schedule is about 83 percent complete, at this time, for the first contract.

Senator FANNIN. Thank you very much, Mr. Commissioner, and your associates. I appreciate very much the testimony you have given. It is excellent, and you were certainly well prepared. I commend you.

Commissioner STAMM. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is always a pleasure to appear before this committee.

Senator FANNIN. Thank you kindly. It is a pleasure to have you. The next witness will be Mr. Charles L. Thomson, executive director for Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District.

Mr. THOMSON. Mr. Chairman.

Senator FANNIN. We are pleased to have you here this morning. We have a copy of your statement. The full statement will be made a part of the record. You may cover the full statement or proceed as you think most advantageous.

Mr. THOMSON. In deference to your time, sir, I will file it as though I read it, and if I may just give an oral statement for a few moments.

Senator FANNIN. Yes. Do not worry about time. We are here as long as it is necessary to have your testimony properly presented.

**STATEMENT OF CHARLES L. THOMSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT**

Mr. THOMSON. My name is Charles L. Thomson and I am general manager of the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District. As you will notice in my statement, our district is represented by a 15-man board.

It was created under Colorado State statutes in 1958, in anticipation of the authorization of Fryingpan-Arkansas project, which this Congress of the United States passed in 1962.

We have the repayment contract for the United States of America to repay the reimbursable costs of the project when it is completed, and the amount of money that was expended is determined.

I personally testified before the Committees of Congress in the fifties and sixties to get the project authorized. I recall at that time some of the concerns expressed by Members of Congress.

I want to be absolutely sure that as an example in our recreation areas around four reservoirs that we would have enough land for public use in perpetuity. As an example, a public reservoir for 6,000 surface acres body of water, it was determined by the agencies involved, the National Park Service, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, Sierra Club and others that 18,000 acres would be acquired. So we would have 12,000 acres for public use in perpetuity. That has added considerably to the cost.

Environmental concerns have added to the cost. The Commissioner just referred to the Mt. Elbert powerplant which is well along, and to more or less bring it into harmony with the environment in that area where I was born and raised, they buried 14 stories of a 15-story building that cost an additional \$2 million dollars.

Three weeks ago when I testified before the House, Congressman Roncalio of Wyoming indicated he would like to come up and see the powerplant. I suggested to him he would have a hard time seeing 14 stories.

He can see one story of a 15-story building. I cite this, Mr. Chairman, to identify that these increased costs were not bad estimates in 1962. They are elements of today that are causing some of these situations.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to say in regard to the Commissioner's statement, I have great respect for the Commissioner, but I do not think the Bureau of Reclamation has to restudy this M. & I. because our district has been working with the Bureau on that.

I am personally chairman of the Arkansas Valley Conduit Committee, which is appointed by our board of directors. We are going to have a meeting in Los Alamos, Colo., a week from today with representatives of the Lower Arkansas Valley Council of Governments.

Fortunately, the entire area to be served by that pipeline is represented by a single council of governments. That entire area is qualified, under the Rural Development Act of 1972, indicating a depressed or lower economy condition.

So nothing has changed down there, since the letter of 1969 stating that the community and the water associations could not build a pipeline themselves. Also, in essence, the administrator of a similar committee, working on the proposed pipeline, from Canyon City to the Fountain Valley area, and nothing has changed there since 1969.

So I earnestly, on behalf of our district, request that those elements be kept in and the authorization be, this committee and this Senate, for the full \$432 million as requested by Senators Haskell and Dominick.

I think, Mr. Chairman, your question of the Commissioner that if it is kept in and a restudy is done, nothing really has changed, because Congress will not appropriate the funds. On the other hand, if they are not kept in this bill, then the Bureau and will will have to be back before you next year requesting that they be put back into the legislation.

In the opinion of my Board and myself, sir, nothing has changed since 1969, and we earnestly request as they did in the House that you keep those conduits or pipelines in and authorize the funds.

Then we will be back before you each year for the authorizations, sir.

I believe, Mr. Chairman, that that pretty well covers the oral testimony in addition to my written testimony.

Senator FANNIN. Thank you, Mr. Thomson. You have certainly been persistent and dedicated to this project in your attempts to get everything approved. I commend you for the work that you have done in that regard.

I am sure that you will let the Commissioner know, as you have advised me and the committee, your feelings on that matter.

Mr. THOMSON. Yes, sir.

Senator FANNIN. You have done a very thorough job of presenting your case, Mr. Thomson. I appreciate your being here this morning, and for presenting your testimony.

Mr. THOMSON. Your question, sir, regarding oil shale. As you know, we work very closely with the Colorado River Complex Administration, the Colorado River Water Users' Association. We are working in harmony with them, regarding the amount of water we are diverting under the Colorado River complex.

We work closely with your State, sir, and all of the other basin States.

Senator FANNIN. I realize and know the tremendous assistance to those areas of Colorado. I realize what is involved, and I do thank you for bringing that to my attention again. Thank you, Mr. Thomson.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Thomson follows:]

STATEMENT  
OF  
CHARLES L. THOMSON  
BEFORE THE  
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS  
UNITED STATES SENATE

My name is Charles L. Thomson, and I am General Manager of the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District, the Legal Agency which has the Repayment Contract, #14-06-700-4715, with the United States of America, to repay the reimbursable portions of the Fryngpan-Arkansas Project. This Project was authorized by the Congress of the United States on August 6, 1962, and signed into law August 16, 1962, by our late President John F. Kennedy, under Public Law 87-590, House Documents #187 and 353. The Official address of the District is 905 Highway 50 West, Pueblo, Colorado 81008. I am honored to appear before you today in support of Legislation which was introduced by our two respected Senators from Colorado, the Honorable Floyd K. Haskell and Peter H. Dominick.

The District was created under Colorado State Statutes on April 29, 1958, four years before the Fryngpan-Arkansas Project was authorized by the Congress of the United States. Unlike many Conservancy, or similar Water Districts, which are formed by having taxpayers petition to stay out of the District, ours was formed by circulating petitions among those who wanted to be in the District. As a result of many education meetings throughout the Arkansas Valley, more than enough signatures were obtained, and today the District represents parts of nine Counties which include 52 Cities and Towns, ranging in size from Colorado Springs with nearly 200,000 people, to very small Rural Cities;

Rural Water Users Associations; 26,150 square miles of diversified Colorado geography; 280,000 acres of essential agricultural land; and a total population of over 400,000 Americans who comprise our tax base, and will be the ultimate beneficiaries of the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project. Many of our Counties have been declared Economic Development Areas, due to the continued unemployment and out-migration of citizens.

Mr. Chairman, I made my first trip to Washington, D. C. to work in behalf of the Project in 1953, and attended nearly every Hearing which your distinguished Committee held from that date until the Congress passed the Authorizing Legislation on August 6, 1962. I personally met with many members of your Committee and the Congress to explain specific aspects of the Proposed Project, and to transmit their observations, recommendations and objections, to the proper Officials for consideration. Fortunately, many of your colleagues here today were present during those Hearings, and when the Senate passed the Bill, so I will not take your time today to review that testimony, unless you so desire.

Suffice it to say, Mr. Chairman, I am here today because of the foresight and serious consideration which was put into the Authorizing Act back in 1962. I speak of two principal provisions. First, Section Seven of the Act which, while authorizing \$170 million for construction, provided "Plus or minus such amounts, if any, as may be justified by reason of ordinary fluctuations in construction costs as indicated by engineering cost indexes applicable to the types of construction involved herein. There are also authorized to be appropriated such additional sums as may be required for Operation and Maintenance of the Project, and for future costs incurred in Section Four of this Act". It has been my privilege to appear before the Subcommittee on Public Works of the

Committee on Appropriations each year since 1967, supporting requests for appropriations, and have been pleased that you, and your colleagues, have recognized the escalating costs of construction which have occurred ever since our Project was authorized, and over which the United States Bureau of Reclamation and their subcontractors have had no control, and each year the Congress has appropriated sufficient funds to permit construction to continue in an orderly manner.

The Second Section of the Act which has great relevance in our appearance today, is Section Four, which I previously mentioned, and which provides that the United States Bureau of Reclamation shall obtain sufficient lands for recreation and use at each of our four reservoirs, and to construct recreation facilities for the millions of people who are crying for such opportunities. As you can appreciate, this phase of the Project is also costing a great deal more than was originally estimated in 1962, because of the amount of land required, the cost of that choice land, and the construction of essential recreation facilities such as water and sewer treatment plants and other public necessity installations.

Mr. Chairman, Environmental and Ecological requirements have also added to the annual and ultimate cost of the Project. Even before the Environmental Protection Act of 1969 was passed by the Congress, Bureau Officials were incorporating environmental enhancement features such as tunnels instead of open canals; a single pumped-back storage hydroelectric plant, rather than seven small firm generating plants along a long power canal; burying fourteen stories of the fifteen story power plant; revegetation programs; air and water pollution controls; and many others. These are considerations which were not necessarily incorporated in the Project when it was authorized in 1962.

Finally, we cannot overemphasize the absolute necessity for the second phase of

the hydroelectric power plant, which we feel is not only essential to the multi-purpose concept of our Project, but also critically needed in these times of power shortage. The plant is totally nonpolluting, and will put energy on line at critical times, thereby reducing the necessity for firm generating plants to expand expensive facilities to meet those peak periods, and then have surplus energy available. Our Project will purchase surplus power in off-peak periods, and then pump the water back into the forebay to be used again. This is certainly one of the most efficient and most economical methods for manufacturing hydroelectric power.

Mr. Chairman, we truly regret that economic conditions in the United States has caused the increased cost of the Project, but we do assure you that the United States Bureau of Reclamation is doing everything in its power to keep bids on construction to the absolute minimum, and each contractor has done an exceptional job of completing the work on schedule, and at the lowest possible costs. Monies invested today in the environmental and ecological enhancements will pay dividends in the future, and certainly the wisdom of you and your colleagues in requiring adequate recreation facilities will also be of great service to the citizens of our great Country for many years to come. The opportunity for our District to manage critically needed water supplies for municipal, agricultural and industrial use will help insure that this great part of the United States will continue to be a strong economic factor in our great Country by reducing unemployment, and, hopefully, Federally funded Programs which will not be needed when we have a sound economic base. We are truly grateful for the confidence reposed in our District when the Senate authorized the Project in 1962, and for the funds which you have appropriated each year since. We pledge to you that the Project will be everything you want it to be, and a credit to the Congress of the United States.

Senator FANNIN. The record will be held open for 10 days. If there is any further testimony to be presented, please do so.

The hearing will be adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 11:40 a.m., the hearing was adjourned.]



