

Mr. ASPINALL. Now, Mr. Secretary, we come to the hydrologic picture, the matter of water supply for the central Arizona project. That is what your estimate is based upon as far as that is concerned.

As I indicated to you in my letter, members of the committee have been confused by the different figures given them with respect to water supply. As you point out in your statement, these differences come about because of the differences in the three broad judgment assumptions that must be made—the magnitude of the runoff, the schedule of upper basin development, and the water losses along the river.

I think it is important that this record explain the differences in assumptions that make a difference in the central Arizona project water supply so that the members may judge for themselves which assumptions are more appropriate for use in planning additional development in the basin, the Bureau of Reclamation study or the Tipton study, and we have other studies.

As you know, Mr. Secretary, this committee for the past 20 years, since the gentleman from Pennsylvania and I have been members of the committee, has always insisted upon the demonstration of economic and fiscal feasibility for all projects we have approved. This committee has never approved a project where there was a serious question concerning availability of water. If this legislation is to be approved—and I hope it is—and taken to the floor, our most important single requirement is to have a full disclosure of the water supply situation so that our actions may be taken with all the facts in front of us. I am sure that you agree with me.

Secretary UDALL. I could not agree more, Mr. Chairman, with that statement.

Mr. ASPINALL. The use of water from the Colorado River system is governed by an international treaty, by the interstate compacts, by numerous judicial decisions, operating criteria, and agreements. The restrictive legal requirements and severe hydrologic limitations make it imperative that either the use of water be kept within the capability of the river's supply or that proposals for additional development be accompanied by immediate steps to augment the water supply.

Do you agree with this?

Secretary UDALL. I think that is also a fair statement.

Mr. ASPINALL. Before asking several questions with respect to the three assumptions in your statement, I would like to ask two in order to refresh the committee's recollection with respect to the central Arizona water supply.

First, what annual average amount of water is necessary to make the central Arizona project a success during its 50-year repayment period?

Mr. DOMINY. As we have testified previously, Mr. Chairman—

Mr. ASPINALL. I just want the amount.

Mr. DOMINY. It can go down to a very low figure in later years of the payout period when most of it would be used for municipal and industrial purposes. The critical requirement is to not reduce delivery at Lee Ferry below 8¼ million acre-feet per year on the average.

Mr. ASPINALL. Of course, Mr. Dominy, you are not going to get any members of this committee or the Congress by stating you are going to keep from the people of Arizona the amount of water that is necessary and that it is necessary for them to use. That is all I am asking as far as