

Now, when it comes to power, when you eliminated the Hualapai Dam, we eliminated the cash register in this area for future augmentation works and further revenues into the fund.

That was argued both ways and the dam has been eliminated.

But in every other water development, power has been the big help. I think the Federal Government should have more control over the power. I would have been much better satisfied to have seen the Federal Government build a thermal plant there, where everything that was made available was public—the coal, the water, the rest of it. We could very easily have sold the electricity. Now, in your reconnaissance study here as far as desalinization is concerned, here again, the power end of it is left to someone else. I would say what you have stated in here as far as costs are concerned of production of electric energy, the Government should hold on to that, too, because every one of the projects that are in place today, if it had not been for the power, they probably would not have been there. The power has been a helper as far as financing of these projects.

We can look to the Bonneville project as far as the West is concerned and the Central Valley's project. So I think while this is somewhat in the future, I do not see anything wrong with the Federal Government developing a nuclear power plant and a desalting plant along with it. When you tie the two together and the Government then has the right to dispose of this huge amount of excess power, because authority to desalinate 2.5 million acre-feet of water, you are talking about an awful lot of power. I would certainly like to see the Federal Government protected and this revenue derived from power going to help provide these facilities we are talking about. The facilities we are talking about are going to be very expensive, I presume, whether it is through desalinization or whether we transport sea water into the basin or bring the water from some place else.

I think that is a very, very important item. I can only look to the success of the other projects that are in place now. If it had not been for the power, every one we bring along today in a general tieback to the funds and there is an inability to pay for these, we go to the fund.

I wonder what you have to say about the Federal Government's position.

I think there is a real cash register here that we are talking about.

Secretary UDALL. Congressman, none of us can foresee what will happen. At this time a proposed Federal steamplant of any size is a highly controversial subject. We have tried to not stir up controversy in this proposal. I do not think we have. And as far as surplus power is concerned, we will do three things with it: We would bank it, which is a familiar arrangement to you; we would use it to firm upper basin hydro at Glen Canyon Dam right nearby; and whatever else remained would be sold to the Salt River project.

We are trying to thread the needle here so as to not stir up controversy and this has been our purpose. It may very well be that the thing that you foresee is something that will come up in the future.

The Congress and the administration will have to face up to it then. That will be something that can be discussed as the needs of the Nation arise.