

connected hydroelectric power system which extends generally throughout the West. Such coordination could enhance and broaden the usability of the power produced by both the thermal plant and the hydroplants. The coordinated output of these plants could be available to serve loads from Reclamation's interconnected transmission system."

If the supply of water in the Colorado River is not augmented as future upstream depletions increase, it will, of course, mean that additional ground-water pumping will have to occur in Arizona if the existing level of irrigated agriculture is to be maintained.

With this in mind, the Salt River Agricultural Improvement District, a preference customer and one of the group of utilities which has offered to construct the thermal plant, has requested that such power be made available to it and other preference pumping customers in order to meet the increases in their own pumping requirements which would occur at that time. Certainly the Department would give careful consideration to the requirements of this nature if they do, in fact, materialize.

Enclosed for your information is a copy of Mr. McMullin's March 13, 1967, telegram.

Sincerely yours,

STEWART L. UDALL,
Secretary of the Interior.

PHOENIX, ARIZ., March 13, 1967.

Hon. FLOYD DOMINY,
*Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation,
Interior Department,
Washington, D.C.:*

In the draft of proposed bill to authorize the construction operation and maintenance of the Central Arizona project transmitted to the President by Secretary Udall on February 15, 1967, we note that it is proposed to provide low-cost pumping power for the CAP through prepayment for the requisite capacity and associated transmission facilities in a WEST-type arrangement. Section 2B of the draft bill further proposes that power and energy so acquired may be disposed of intermittently when not required in connection with the CAP.

We have all recognized that the CAP has the unique feature of being able to accommodate itself to a fluctuating delivery of water from the Colorado River because in years of maximum diversion from the river we can correspondingly reduce pumping in the CAP area. Conversely in years of low diversion it would be necessary for Salt River project and other similarly situated agencies to materially increase pumping. It occurs to us that the power not required by the Bureau during years of low diversion from the Colorado River might well be used by Salt River and other preference pumping customers in order to assure power availability for the increased pumping that would be necessary during those years. We also understand that beginning about 1990 there may be some firm power available from CAP, although we do not know the terms and conditions under which this power might be disposed of. Would look forward to the possibility of acquiring this power because if the river has not been augmented by that time and the water supplies for diversion through the aqueduct have been materially reduced Salt River and similar agencies are going to have to again resort to increased pumping and will then have materially increased requirements for firms pumping power. Will you please give these matters consideration in further work for CAP.

R. J. McMULLIN,
General Manager, Salt River Project.

JUNE 30, 1967.

Secretary STEWART L. UDALL,
*Department of the Interior,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. SECRETARY: With respect to the 400 mw of capacity in WEST's Page plant which the Bureau of Reclamation plans to purchase by pre-payment in connection with the Central Arizona Project proposal approved by the Senate Interior Committee, will power and energy surplus to the project pumping requirements be marketed under the preference clause?

I would greatly appreciate it if you could supply me with a prompt answer to this question.

Sincerely,

ALEX RADIN.