

(The forecasts referred to follow :)

AVAILABILITY OF MRBP FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The 1963 Missouri River Basin Project repayment studies indicated that reimbursable costs could be repaid in accordance with the following schedule:

1. Commercial power repayment completed by—2014
2. All irrigation investment associated with units built or under construction on 6/30/64 repaid by—2018.

Following power payout in 2014 and the payout of existing irrigation units in 2018, approximately \$40 million, annually, in power revenues will be available to assist irrigation repayment in the basin. Assuming an early authorization of the initial stage of the Oahe Unit in 1969 the first increment of financial assistance required from the Missouri River Basin Project would be in 2036 at which time about \$720,000,000 would be available to assist irrigation. Of this the Garrison Diversion Unit will require about \$193,000,000, and the Nebraska Mid-State Division about \$32,000,000 leaving about \$500,000,000 to assist other units. The total assistance required for the initial stage of the Oahe Unit would be \$172,350,000. The last increment of assistance would not be required until 2057.

Senator BURDICK. Senator Hansen?

Senator HANSEN. I have no questions.

Senator MCGOVERN. Could I make a brief announcement, Mr. Chairman?

It is my understanding that we are about to take a noon break, coming back into session at 2 o'clock for the rest of the witnesses. Senator Mundt and I have reserved places in the Senate dining room in this building, in room G-211, for the South Dakota witnesses who are here with the Governor and our congressional delegation.

We would like to extend an invitation to all of the South Dakota people who are here in the hearing room to join us there about 12:15 for lunch. I will leave it to the chairman as to when we reconvene.

Senator BURDICK. In view of that announcement, and it now being 12:08, we will be in recess until 2 o'clock.

I want to announce, in view of the fact that I have a Judiciary meeting that has been going on all morning and which will resume this afternoon, and which I must attend, the meeting this afternoon will be chaired by Senator McGovern.

Before I have to leave I would also like to make the subcommittee aware of the support my good friend, Milo Hoisveen, State engineer of North Dakota, is giving this project. I would like to have his letter included in the record at this point.

(The letter referred to follows:)

NORTH DAKOTA WATER COMMISSION,
STATE CAPITOL,
Bismarck, N. Dak.

HON. QUENTIN N. BURDICK,

U.S. Senator, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BURDICK: In my position as State Engineer for the State of North Dakota, it has been my privilege to study certain aspects of this project over a period of years. The project appears well designed and should meet the much-needed moisture requirements of that area to enhance the agricultural economy, municipal water supply, and wildlife propagation in South Dakota.

In North Dakota we are commencing work on the giant Garrison diversion unit after many years of consideration; consequently, we are aware of the years of constant effort South Dakota has made in regard to the Oahe project. It is my opinion that these projects can be made to, and will, complement each other.

The Oahe project has been considered as a part of the overall Missouri Basin project authorized in the Flood Control Act of 1944 and, as such, it has been de-