

I understand that Ralph Herseth is not with us, although he is listed as a witness.

Stanley P. Munger will be our next witness. He is the president of the South Dakota Reclamation and Rural Development Association.

STATEMENT OF STANLEY P. MUNGER, PRESIDENT, SOUTH DAKOTA RECLAMATION AND WATER DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Mr. MUNGER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have written testimony I would like to submit for the record, if I may.

Senator McGOVERN. It will be placed in the record at the conclusion of your remarks.

Mr. MUNGER. May I just comment on one part of this?

I would like to point out that the credentials of our association were presented to the committee at Redfield, this year, but I would like to add and specifically emphasize that we represent a cross section of the State of South Dakota, both as to vocation and avocation, and that our interests lie primarily with the principle of multiple-purpose development conservation and storage of water.

Because of our diversity in membership, we propose ourselves as a good indication of the very broad interests of the public in South Dakota in this project.

Senator McGOVERN. I don't think there is any question about that.

Mr. MUNGER. With that in mind, Senator, we would hope for a favorable action on Senate bill 6.

Senator McGOVERN. Thank you very much. Your prepared statement will be included in full.

Mr. MUNGER. Thank you, sir.

(The prepared statement referred to follows:)

STATEMENT OF STANLEY P. MUNGER, PRESIDENT, SOUTH DAKOTA RECLAMATION AND WATER DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Mr. Chairman, my name is Stanley Munger. I live at Vermillion, South Dakota, and am engaged in the livestock farming business there. I am serving as President of the South Dakota Reclamation and Water Development Association and am privileged to represent that Organization here, today.

The credentials of the SDRWDA were presented for your records at the Field Hearings held this year in Redfield, South Dakota, so I will only recall for you, now, that our membership represents widely differing vocations and avocations from every section of the State. We are joined together in advocating a Principle . . . multi-purpose conservation, storage, and use of water . . . and we are not joined together simply by the economics and geography of an immediate project site.

For this reason, we suggest to you that our voice accurately reflects the public's recognition that approval of the Oahe Unit is needed in the Public Interest and will serve that Public Interest, well.

It has been twenty-three years since the Flood Control Act of 1944 was approved and the irrigation portion of that Act has not been initiated, even in part, in South Dakota.

Meanwhile, South Dakotans have provided over one-half million acres of their best Missouri River bottom lands for generous downstream benefits to navigation, flood control, and power.

Meanwhile, South Dakotans have constituted their State as a Conservancy District.

Meanwhile, South Dakotans of 15½ counties have overwhelming voted in favor of taxing themselves to establish the Oahe Sub-Conservancy District for the purpose of supporting the Oahe project.