

which dozens of witnesses told dozens of reasons why Oahe should be authorized at this time.

We are happy today to restate our support, and attach herewith for the record a copy of the resolution which is being submitted today for approval of our members at their annual meeting.

Thank you.

(The resolution referred to follows:)

RESOLUTION No. 9 (OAHE IRRIGATION UNIT)

After more than 15 years of study and investigation showing feasibility and desirability of the Oahe Irrigation Unit, the report of the Bureau of Reclamation shows that it is a sound investment for the federal government and necessary for the economic growth and the development of water resources in South Dakota.

The first stage 190,000 acre unit will bring stability to the farmers, municipal water for communities in the area, employment opportunities, stimulate business growth and expand recreational facilities all of which will make for an orderly growth of our state.

Recognizing the immediate need for the production of an adequate food supply for the nation and the world, we urgently request the immediate authorization and funding of the Oahe project by the Johnson Administration in order to proceed with construction at the earliest possible date.

We appreciate the efforts given by the members of the South Dakota Congressional delegation in support of the project and especially appreciate the leadership given by Senator George McGovern in obtaining and holding senate field hearings for the Oahe Unit in South Dakota.

We commend Mr. Fred Holscher, Chairman of the Oahe Conservancy Subdistrict, the board of directors and manager James Lewis for their untiring efforts and insight towards creation of this unit and its development, all of which will build a stronger agricultural economy for South Dakota farmers and provide for a more abundant life for its citizens.

The membership directs East River to continue to work and cooperate with the Oahe Conservancy Subdistrict and to exert every other possible effort to bring about the authorization of the project and make it a reality.

Senator McGOVERN. Thank you very much, Mr. Engelhorn. The resolution you submitted has been placed in the record. We appreciate your appearance today.

Mr. ENGELHORN. Thank you.

Senator McGOVERN. The next witness will be Mr. L. J. Maher, editor, Huron Daily Plainsman.

STATEMENT OF L. J. MAHER, VICE PRESIDENT, HURON PUBLISHING CO., ASSISTANT PUBLISHER, DAILY PLAINSMAN

Mr. MAHER. Mr. Chairman and committee members, my name is L. J. Maher and I live in Huron, S. Dak. I am vice president of the Huron Publishing Co. and assistant publisher of the Daily Plainsman, a newspaper that serves all or part of nine of the 15½ counties that make up the Oahe Conservancy Subdistrict.

The city of Huron is just one of 17 cities and towns that will depend upon water from the first phase of the Oahe unit for municipal and industrial use. But our city is unique, because our present municipal water supply is furnished from storage in the James River created by the James Diversion Dam which will be a part of the first phase of the Oahe unit when that project is built.

This dam was built after a study authorized by the Congress in 1961 showed that it would provide a stable water supply for the city of Huron until the year 1970.