

is to return to the former owners land not needed for reclamation purposes. The 63,000 acres is not so needed or used. The Bureau has refused to return the land to the tribes although the tribes now own the minerals and stand ready to pay for the surface. We urge that the project not be reauthorized unless provision is made to insure that the Secretary resolves this conflict of interest by either returning land to Indian use or reselling it to the tribes.

SHOSHONE AND ARAPAHOE TRIBES,
WALLACE ST. CLAIR,
Chairman, Shoshone Business Council, Fort Washakie, Wyo.
F. ARNOLD HEADLEY,
Chairman, Arapahoe Business Council, Fort Washakie, Wyo.

Senator HANSEN. I think the wire further indicates that we might ask the representatives of the Bureau of Reclamation about this. I think they can go into that.

I would like to file this for the record.

Senator ANDERSON. It will be made a part of the record.

(The mail confirmation of the telegram incorporated herein immediately preceding follows:)

SHOSHONE AND ARAPAHOE TRIBES,
Fort Washakie, Wyo., November 27, 1967.

HON. CLIFFORD P. HANSEN,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.:

The Shoshone and Arapahoe Tribes oppose S. 670 to reauthorize the Riverton Extension Unit unless provision is made to require the Bureau of Reclamation to honor its long established policy and return or sell back to the Tribes 63,000 acres of former tribal grazing land not needed for reclamation purposes.

The Tribes sold 161,520 acres of tribal land to the United States for reclamation purposes under the Act of August 15, 1953, 67 STAT 592, for \$6.25 per acre. Some 63,000 acres of this land never has been used for reclamation purposes. The 63,000 acres are on the reservation and are contiguous to 2 million acres of tribal land now administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The minerals are in the Tribes.

Up to last year the 63,000 acres was in exclusive Indian use under permits for substantial fees paid to the Bureau of Reclamation. Last year the Bureau of Reclamation barred Indian use and turned the land over to the Midvale Irrigation District for a nominal fee if any. The Bureau policy is to return to the former owners land not needed for reclamation purposes. The 63,000 acres is not so needed or used. The Bureau has refused to return the land to the Tribes although the Tribes now own the minerals and stand ready to pay for the surface.

We urge that the project not be reauthorized unless provision is made to insure that the Secretary resolves this conflict of interest by either returning the land to Indian use or reselling it to the Tribes.

WALLACE ST. CLAIR,
Chairman, Shoshone Business Council.
ARNOLD HEADLEY,
Chairman, Arapahoe Business Council.

Senator ANDERSON. I wanted to be sure that the chief executive of the State recognized the protest.

Are you worried about the financial security concerned?

Governor HATHAWAY. Based on the information I have, I would not be concerned about it. I have not received that protest myself relative to the legislation. There may be one in my office.

Senator ANDERSON. Senator Jordan?

Senator JORDAN. Governor, the lands under the third division have been irrigated before. This is not a new project. Is this true?

Governor HATHAWAY. That is correct.

Senator JORDAN. And I know that we have had this before us a number of times. I need to refresh my memory on it. What did we do in 1954? Do you recall?