

I would like to insert a statement here that \$12,500 of this was drainage that was done on the highway rights-of-way, and the highway did furnish the pile and did the work.

The Midvale Irrigation District has assisted the individual farmers in the installation of the tile drain and this assistance has cost the district \$7,169.97.

The seep problem can be corrected with adequate drainage. Herb Burden, a Midvale farmer, actually reclaimed 105 acres on his place by installing drains.

I would like to insert another statement here. This farm was practically all seepage when Herb took it over. There were about 10 acres of productive land left on it.

These acres are now irrigable and productive for him as well as assessable for annual operation and maintenance costs by the district. This is one example, but there are many on Midvale that can be cited to show that adequate drainage will preserve the land for many years of sustained irrigated farming. Mr. Ed Bogacz, one of my fellow commissioners who is with us here today, needs approximately 1,500 feet of tile on his place. And so it goes with many water users throughout the district.

It is estimated that Midvale needs approximately 30 miles of open drains and 280 miles of subsurface tile drains to complete the drainage system. This protective work would cost approximately \$6.5 million.

This proposed program of installing drainage throughout Midvale is not a new concept but was planned from the very beginning of the project. This legislation would enable the drainage program to be completed as it should have been done many years ago.

The commissioners of Midvale have spent a great deal of time and money attempting to control the ever-increasing silt problem. The Wind River and diversion dam have filled up with silt over the years to the point that nearly all of the silt from the river, during normal water levels, is diverted down the Wyoming Canal.

I want to insert this statement. This was before we put this dam in, to divert the river. The silt and sand inflow into the district canals is occurring at a faster rate than the district is able to remove it. The district has constructed a floating pump barge to remove the silt, together with the use of its other heavy equipment, but still the silt problem continues.

The district has been required to allocate a substantial portion of its annual operation and maintenance budget to fight this problem. Our efforts have been moderately successful in this area but this does not prevent the sand and silt from entering into the irrigation system at our diversion point.

The answer to our silt problem seems to be a desilting works built into the system with control gates at the diversion dam. These control gates should be electrified to allow faster regulation during sluicing operations.

I sincerely appreciate the opportunity of appearing before this committee.

Thank you.

I believe the attachment contains each individual's investment in tiles.

(The document referred to follows:)