

This same situation has occurred in a number of places in Pennsylvania where the Army Corps of Engineers have built reservoirs and the floods have been caused by the tributaries that could not flow into the stream. When we have had high water, those areas continue to have floods and people back there do not understand. Some of us have tried to explain that the Corps of Engineers is not in very close association with the Almighty. They did not properly estimate the rainfall and a few other things. Then it was discovered that one of the real causes of floods in many communities is the fact that there cannot be runoff from some of the tributaries.

I regret to hear that this same problem is one of the things that is causing the flooding in the St. Croix River.

Mr. KARTH. Yes, sir; thank you, Mr. Saylor. I think every bit of evidence I am aware of indicates that those two or three floods that have occurred up-river from the confluence of the St. Croix and the Mississippi have in fact been caused by backup waters from the Mississippi River, which is a fast-flowing river in that area especially in high water periods and as a result of that, a dam in my opinion, would only despoil completely and irrevocably that portion of a great wild rivers area, namely, above St. Croix and in the Namekagon River area of Wisconsin, and I sincerely hope that that does not occur.

Mr. SAYLOR. Thank you.

Mr. TAYLOR. The gentleman from Iowa.

Mr. KYL. The gentleman speaks of the Corps proposal to build a dam on the river.

Mr. KARTH. I was notified just 3 days ago, sir, that that was a possibility and they did in fact, submit this to higher echelons of the Corps of Engineers, yes.

Mr. KYL. They have not asked for any money from the Appropriations Committee to initiate study of the project.

Mr. KARTH. I am not aware of the fact that they have but I would not want to say they have not, either. I am just not aware of it.

Mr. KYL. Is this proposal to build a dam of the Corps' origin or has some group or some Member of Congress asked the Corps to make such studies?

Mr. KARTH. Well, I have tried to remain as knowledgeable as I can about this whole proposition and I would say to the gentleman that it came as a shocker to me and I know of no cooperative efforts between the Corps of Engineers and any interested groups in that area to so construct the dam.

Mr. KYL. In other words, it would seem that it is solely the idea of the Corps of Engineers, not of a local group, community, or Member of Congress?

Mr. KARTH. That is my opinion; yes, sir.

Mr. KYL. Thank you.

Mr. TAYLOR. The gentleman from Idaho.

Mr. McCLURE. Could you tell me the ownership of the land through which these segments of the rivers flow?

Mr. KARTH. Approximately 30,000 acres or so—maybe it is 60,000 but do not hang me on the amount—most of the adjacent lands to this river areas above Taylors Falls [indicating on map] is owned by Northern States Power Co. and they have kept it in its wild state for