

the fact that this area has experienced explosive population, commercial, and industrial growth since 1938.

Furthermore, the Omaha District of the Army Corps of Engineers estimates that a flood with a volume of water nearly 30 times that of the 1938 crest is within the realm of possibility. It might not happen until the next century, but on the other hand it could occur next month.

The Corps of Engineers has proposed a site for the dam and reservoir 3 miles downstream from Morrison and 8 miles above the junction of Bear Creek with the South Platte River. This is the only point on the 262-square-mile watershed which is feasible for single-reservoir control of the creek. Farther upstream sites would have excluded control of Turkey Creek and Mount Vernon Creek—both major tributaries of Bear Creek. Downstream, urban and commercial development is too extensive to make the project practical.

The total cost of the Mount Carbon project, as submitted to the Bureau of the Budget, is \$32,617,000. This is an increase of about \$2.8 million from estimates of a year ago and reflects a recent expansion in the recreation facilities at the reservoir implemented at the request of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation.

I would point out that this additional expenditure is an extremely efficient way to acquire much-needed recreational areas, but this facet should not be allowed in any way to interfere with the authorization process. Construction of this dam and reservoir now as a flood control measure is absolutely vital.

This project enjoys a high benefit-cost ratio of over 2-to-1. The Bureau of the Budget gave its clearance to the Mount Carbon project on June 18, 1968, the day your hearings opened. It has been endorsed by every interested department and agency of the Federal Government and the executive branch and the legislature of the State of Colorado. I am including as a part of this statement house joint resolution 1019, of the Colorado General Assembly which endorses and recommends the construction of the Mount Carbon Dam and Reservoir.

This project also has been endorsed by the Colorado Water Conservation Board, the city and county of Denver, the city of Sheridan, the board of county commissioners of Jefferson County, Colo., the South Platte Area Redevelopment Council (SPARC), the Action Now—Dam the Platte organization and the Tame the Bear—Build Mount Carbon group. I am including as a part of this statement the letters and resolutions I have received from these governmental bodies and organizations in support of the authorization of the Mount Carbon Dam and Reservoir.

The Mount Carbon project also has been endorsed by the National Rivers and Harbors Congress.

I have received a number of letters from concerned citizens residing in the area affected by the Mount Carbon project. All of these letters urge enactment of H.R. 11729, the Brotzman-Rogers bill to authorize the Mount Carbon project. I am including as a part of this statement the names of many of the individuals who have written to me concerning this project.

Mr. Chairman, the inevitability of another destructive flood on the Bear Creek is clear—it is only a question of when it will occur. This fact, when considered with the high benefit-cost ratio which the Mount Carbon Dam enjoys and the development of badly needed park and recreational land for the Denver metropolitan area, justifies the au-