

STATEMENT OF MRS. RICHARD HOGUE, LANDOVER, REMINGTON, VA., AS READ BY
VIRGINIA REMINGTON

Mr. Chairman, my place is situated on the Rappahannock River about midway of the Kellys Fork Rapids.

There is a mile of white water, and the situation is particularly prized by canoeists. The Salem Dam would drown the rapids, and would inundate my house. The present house was built around the 1830's, but from the late 17th century structure of various kinds, mostly log, existed. This is testified to by numerous foundations.

I am an old Washingtonian, but have lived at Kellys Ford farm since 1940. Naturally, I should like to live out my life there. I see no reason why I should be flooded out from my farm for benefit of the oyster farmers below Fredericksburg or to make additional and unnecessary recreational waters when the river now affords ample recreation as it is.

I think a dam on the river is an anachronism. We are no longer in the water power age. We are in the nuclear age. With the new atomic energy plant on the North Anna River, only 20 miles from Fredericksburg, and soon to be in operation, there is less reason to build a Government-owned hydroelectric plant with its 11,000 acres of water open for public recreation will be all this area will ever need.

It is my intention, as stated publicly, to will at my death my land, consisting of 132.78 acres, along the Kellys Ford area of the Rappahannock River to Fauquier County for a park area, provided it is not flooded out by the Salem Church dam.

We hope that you will oppose the unnecessary Salem Church dam.

Very truly yours, Mrs. Richard Hogue.

Mr. JONES. Thank you; thank you very much.

The next witness will be Mrs. Beulah Setti, landowner of Remington, Va.

STATEMENT OF BEULAH SETTI, LANDOWNER, REMINGTON, VA.

Mrs. SETTI. Mr. Chairman, I am here to speak not only for myself, but on behalf of my friends and neighbors, who, for many years have invested long hours of toil and many dollars on their farmland along the banks of the Rappahannock River. These farms are, and will continue to be passed on from one generation to the next.

I have spent 25 years of hard work farming this land, and, as you know, farming today isn't very profitable, but it is a good life. My twin sons are following in my footsteps, showing at 13 years of age the same love and respect for the land. They spend many hours preparing the soil for planting, caring for the crops, and gathering in the harvest. If our choice farmland is taken from us, how can we continue to farm?

We realize that we do not own the river, that it is a God-given natural resource. We do not wish to imply that we object to others sharing its many benefits. We do, however, object to our best land being taken from us to construct a masterpiece that many people do not want and do not need. For many years we have been told by experts other than the Army Corps of Engineers that several smaller dams along the river will be of more benefit to all concerned than one large dam at the proposed site, and with considerably less of the taxpayers' money.

In some of the reports on this project I read that woodland can be acquired for \$60 an acre and farmland can be bought for \$124 an acre. This is not true in our area, where land used for cutting pulpwood brings over \$600 per acre, with the owner still in possession of his land. Farmland along the river, in a good location, will bring \$1,000 an acre for building sites.