

Thank you very much, Dr. Barton.

Now we will hear from Mr. Howard Mendenhall, Wabash Valley Association, Inc., Mt. Carmel, Ill.

STATEMENT OF HOWARD MENDENHALL, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, WABASH VALLEY ASSOCIATION, INC., MOUNT CARMEL, ILL.

Mr. MENDENHALL. Mr. Chairman, I am Howard Mendenhall, the executive vice president of the Wabash Valley Association, a voluntary citizens membership group in Illinois and in Indiana. I am here to ask you to authorize all six projects in the Wabash River Basin comprehensive study. These have been studied by the concerned agencies both Federal and State Governments for nearly 4 years.

You will be interested in knowing that some major breakthroughs in intergovernmental cooperation and coordination have been achieved on these projects.

Small watersheds have been thoroughly studied and coordinated with the upstream reservoirs in this package. Low-flow augmentation, fish, wildlife, recreation, and preservation of esthetics, natural beauty, and historic sites have been given special consideration.

Meanwhile, they accomplish their major purposes of flood control, water supply, and quality control.

Even Mother Nature cooperated by supplying devastating proof of the need for these projects by causing millions of dollars of flood damage both last fall and again this spring. Had these five reservoirs been operational last fall, the damages prevented could have paid for one of them.

My mission, after asking you to authorize the badly needed Louisville and Helm Reservoirs in Illinois, the Downeyville, Big Blue, and Big Walnut Reservoirs, and the Marion flood protection works, is to be available to answer questions on public need for these projects.

In the entire Wabash Basin, the subject of flooding our farmers and our farmers have been hit in 2 crop years, both last fall and again this spring. They have lost and had to go out and replant this late in the season and it means a terrific loss in yield to replant this late. Some of them have still not been replanted.

The one reservoir in question, the revised estimated figures of loss just below the Big Walnut Reservoir alone this year, this spring, were \$1.4 million in losses in this one below this reservoir site.

I would like to submit for the record the remaining portion of the statement which contains additional evidence and exhibits for your information concerning the problems in the basin area. There are only two additional items to that submitted to the Senate Public Works Committee.

Mr. JONES. What are the two additional items?

Mr. MENDENHALL. One is a letter from John Mitchell, Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

Mr. JONES. Well, take them out and give them to the reporter.

Mr. MENDENHALL. And also attached to the last part is a map of the area that is involved, and has been added.

Mr. JONES. The documents that have been submitted will be referred to as a reference in the Senate documents.