

FEDERAL EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATION
OF PUBLIC WORKS

WASHINGTON, D.C.

May 15th, 1954.

Col. Edward Fletcher,
The Willard Hotel,
Washington, D.C.

Re: Docket No. 5575.

My dear Col. Fletcher:

In connection with your letter to Col. Clark in regard to the San Diego water project, and our conversation this morning, I understand that it is proposed that the loan, if approved, will be secured by revenue warrants payable only from the revenues of the project, rather than from the entire revenues of the water-works system.

In order that we may determine the sufficiency of such revenues, it will be necessary for us to have statements in regard to the operation of this project as a separate unit. If it is not already so operated, it will be necessary for the Water Department of the City to set up separate accounts of receipts and disbursements and to agree that a proportionate amount of water from this source will be used in supplying the city at prevailing rates. Satisfactory provision will have to be made for allocation of receipts and expenses, particularly in regard to the proportion of overhead to be borne by this project.

If a satisfactory showing is made that the project so operated will be self-liquidating, it will remain for the City to satisfy counsel for the Administration that revenue warrants so secured can be validly issued, and that a valid contract to operate the project in this manner can be executed.

Sincerely yours,

B. W. Thoron
B. W. Thoron,
Assistant Finance Director,

For the Administrator.

(copy)

June 8

Dr. Harlow S. Person, Chairman
Water Planning Committee
National Resources Board
Interior Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Person:

As the National Resources Board has included in its program the investigation of several stream basins in various parts of the United States, I wish to request that a portion of San Diego County, California, particularly the San Luis Rey River Basin, be included in your program of investigation.

San Diego County, the most Southwesterly county in Continental United States, has been lavishly endowed by Nature with many resources. Its all-year equable climate, its large area of frost free agricultural lands suited for the production of many varieties of semi-tropical fruits and winter grown vegetables are a few of these resources. However, in regard to the water supply naturally tributary to it, San Diego County is not so fortunate. The water supply of the stream basins of San Diego County which can be conserved and utilized under the fullest practicable development, is insufficient in amount to meet the ultimate water requirements for all consumptive uses in the County.

Of the 308,000 acre-feet of mean seasonal run-off from stream basins tributary to San Diego County it is estimated that a maximum annual safe yield of approximately 160,000 acre-feet may be obtained through the utilization of existing and potential surface reservoirs and underground basins. It is estimated that 312,000 acre-feet will be required to furnish an adequate water supply for the 240,000 acres of non-irrigable lands of the County, without consideration of the water supply necessary to meet the needs of the rapidly growing metropolitan area which is centered in the city of San Diego.

Therefore it is essential that the existing water supplies of the county be thoroughly investigated and a well planned program set up for the future development of the remaining unregulated run-off in order that it may be utilized for the greatest benefit of the entire area.

San Diego County has an area of 4221 square miles of which the United States Census reported 1500 square miles in ranches and farms in 1930. A crop survey made in 1934 shows 160,500 acres in crop land with 52,100 acres under irrigation. The 1930 census estimates the value of land, building, equipment and live stock utilized in the agricultural industry as \$32,000,000 and the value of the crops in 1930 as \$9,423,847. The population of the county has increased from 55,000 in 1900, to 61,665 in 1910, to 112,240 in 1920, and to 209,659 in 1930.

Dr. Harlow S. Person
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The San Luis Rey River Basin is located in the Northern part of the county and drains 505 square miles of the Westerly slope of the Peninsula Range. The run-off of upper 206 square miles has been fully regulated by the construction of Henshaw Reservoir, which furnishes water to the Escondido Mutual Water Company and the Vista Irrigation District. The 359 square miles of watershed below Henshaw Dam has a mean annual run-off of 29,510 acre-feet, a large portion of which flows into the Pacific Ocean in infrequent but destructive flood flows. Several potential reservoirs exist on the stream wherein adequate regulation could be accomplished. A total of 21,570 acres were irrigated in 1934 from water originating in this watershed, and municipal supplies furnished the cities of Oceanside and Escondido.

A large area of irrigable land of excellent quality lies within the San Luis Rey River Basin or adjacent thereto.

The following estimate for an investigation and report on the water resources of the San Luis Rey River and the formulation of the best engineering plan of developing that river in the interests of water conservation and flood control has been made by California Department of Public Works, Division of Water Resources.

Field Surveys	\$6,000
Exploration of Dam Sites	
Bonsall	5,000
Monserate	9,000
Office studies including Collection, compilation and analysis of data	<u>30,000</u>
Total	\$50,000

I most sincerely hope that the Natural Resources Board will include this portion of San Diego County in its program of investigation of the national resources of the United States and plan for their future beneficial use. Water is the very life blood of this semi-arid region, and the future growth of San Diego County is dependant upon an orderly progressive development of every drop of water that can be economically conserved for consumptive use.

In making this application I speak not alone in behalf of my constituents but I have the endorsement of the City of San Diego, the Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Supervisors of San Diego County, the City of Oceanside, the Farm Bureau and the County Planning Commission. I can also get the endorsement of the Governor of California, the Director of Public Works, Mr. Earl Lee Kelly, and Mr. Edward Hyatt, our State Engineer all in writing if desired by you and the above will be sent you by telegraph if you desire it.

Dr. Harlow S. Person
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I am also sure of the endorsement of our Congressman, Honorable George Burnham, and our Senators, Honorable Hiram W. Johnson and Honorable William G. McAdoo, to whom I refer you.

Your early and favorable action will be appreciated.
May I hear from you soon?

Sincerely yours

(signed) Ed Fletcher

Ed Fletcher Papers

1870-1955

MSS.81

Box: 31 Folder: 23

**General Correspondence - United States.
Various federal agencies, Washington, D.C.**



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