

# Nevada Out Of Interim Dam Power

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Nevada will get none of the "interim power" from Boulder Dam power houses if the temporary contracts drawn up for sale of this power to the city of Los Angeles and Southern Sierras Power Company are approved by Secretary Ickes of the Interior Department and officials of the city and power company.

This power is designated as "secondary power" in the temporary contracts, and is to be delivered to the two agencies for 0.5 mills per kilowatt hour. Because neither Arizona nor Nevada was allocated any of the secondary or "dump" power under the original contracts, no provision was made in the proposed interim contracts for withdrawal of any of this "first power" from Boulder Dam.

This was the information received here late yesterday by Ed W. Clark, veteran Colorado River commissioner, from Richard Coffey, attorney for the bureau of reclamation who is now in Los Angeles working out the contracts.

Coffey's communication, which enclosed a copy of the proposed interim contracts, was in response to a query directed to Dr. Elwood Mead, commissioner of reclamation, in which Clark sought to ascertain Nevada's position with reference to this power.

"It is now estimated that prior to the time power will be ready for delivery under the terms of the original contracts, it may be possible for a period of from two to four months to generate some energy at Boulder Dam power plant with generating equipment then installed and ready for use, and with water that must be released in any event to meet downstream irrigation and domestic requirements," Coffey says.

"It will not be possible, however," he continues, "during the so-called interim period to generate sufficient energy to require the city of Los Angeles to commence taking energy under the lease of April 26, 1930.

"An effort is being made, therefore, to negotiate an interim contract with the city of Los Angeles covering the period from the time it is first possible to generate energy to the time when the city has to commence taking energy under the lease of April 26, 1930.

"The energy to be delivered to the city under the proposed interim contract therefore, will be secondary or dump energy; hence the

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rate of one-half mill per kilowatt hour, the price established for secondary energy by the original lease-agreement of April 26, 1930.

"As neither Arizona nor Nevada is entitled to secondary energy under the provisions of the original lease of Boulder Dam power plant, and as the proposed interim contract with the city of Los Angeles covers delivery of secondary

or dump energy only, no provision was made in the proposed interim contract for withdrawal of such secondary or sump energy by either the state of Arizona or the state of Nevada," he concludes.

The contracts have not been approved or signed as yet, Coffey states.

The duration of the interim power contracts depends entirely on how soon the reservoir back of Boulder Dam fills up, reclamation bureau engineers state. They hope it will be only three or four months, but it might be two or three years, if there is a succession of dry years, they admit. In the latter event, under the interim contracts as now drafted, Nevada would be without Boulder Dam power for that length of time, while the city of Los Angeles would be obtaining a sizeable amount at 0.5 mills per kilowatt hour.