

Power Situation In Pioche Said Big Problem Now

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Unforeseen demand for power in the Pioche area, due to the wide operation of mines, has created a decidedly ticklish problem and may develop to such an extent that the original request for power for the district may not be sufficient, according to H. W. Crozier, government official on the Pioche power line, who spoke at the chamber of commerce today.

Crozier stated that the mining operations in the district had started much earlier than was expected and that the expansion was so much more rapid than anticipated that the power situation was becoming a great problem.

"Our present supply of power is being strained at the present time and the mines in the section have not, as yet, reached their maximum consumption. When that time arrives the present set-up will be entirely inadequate.

"The power line under construction is almost at the gates of Las Vegas now, and within one or two weeks, it will cross the highway near the airport. Within two weeks the contractor will be at work on the steel towers near the substation.

"However, the power situation involved in the Pioche development is dangerous because of the increased demand for power immediately. Some of the mines already have started and the present source of power is taxed. Work on the long tunnel from Pioche to the opposite side of the mountain has been begun, and other development will be started as soon as power is available.

"The matter of the power allotment is being discussed at a conference in Washington and consideration is being given to allowing 138,000 volts to the Pioche district immediately," Crozier said.