



COMMUNICATION
 DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
 SACRAMENTO DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
 650 CAPITOL MALL
 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814

820

REPLY TO
 ATTENTION OF
 SPKED-W

Appendix C

27 February 1975

COE Letter of
 February 27, 1975

Mr. B. E. Martin, Regional Director
 Mid-Pacific Regional Office
 U. S. Bureau of Reclamation
 2800 Cottage Way
 Sacramento, CA 95825

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Quoted 3/13 *740*

Dear Mr. Martin:

Please refer to your letters of 30 August 1974 and 13 February 1975 (your reference MP-740 820) concerning the matter of current flood control benefits for Friant, Shasta, Folsom, and Auburn Dams. Upon receipt of your 30 August letter we initiated pertinent hydrologic studies of the Sacramento, American, and San Joaquin Rivers, since it appeared that the flood events since 1959 could be expected to modify the supporting hydrology for our 1959 studies. The 1959 studies, through an updating process, were the basis for the flood control benefit estimates provided you in our letter of 25 April 1969. Completion of the hydrologic studies in mid-December 1974 confirmed our opinion as to the likelihood of such modification. It appears that the effect of the new hydrology would be to increase the indicated average annual benefits. Price level increases and increased economic development would also increase previously computed benefits.

In recent months the guideline framework for Corps flood control benefit studies has undergone extensive change with concurrent substantive increases in the complexity of such studies and in the time and effort necessary to conduct them. While we are uncertain as to the magnitude of the effect of these guideline changes on flood control benefit computations for the four dams, it appears that they will act to appreciably decrease the benefits. These considerations of probable adverse effect of the new guidelines and probable favorable effect of new hydrology, viewed in the light of general price increases and economic growth during the past five years in areas protected by the four dams, cause us to conclude that current flood control benefits would at least equal those

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supplied you in April 1969, but might not significantly exceed them. Inasmuch as it does not appear appropriate to merely update the 1969 benefits, which, as previously indicated, were derived through updating of 1959 values, we recommend that you use the 1969 data to meet your present needs.

With regard to your future needs and in view of the desirability of your having project flood control benefits based on new hydrology and derived in conformity with our new guidelines, we further recommend that detailed study of such benefits be undertaken. Our present workload and established priorities for work output preclude our involvement in such study prior to July 1975. While some funding for this work could come from our own resources, we estimate a requirement for additional funds in the order of \$15,000, with completion of the work by the end of March 1976.

With regard to current navigation benefits creditable to Shasta Dam, we are of the opinion that an increase over the 1959 estimate, as reiterated in our letter of 25 April 1969, is appropriate. In the absence of detailed analysis, we consider an estimate of \$1,500,000 for such benefits to be reasonable.

Please let us know if you wish us to undertake the detailed reevaluation of the benefits, and if you can furnish the necessary funds.

Sincerely yours,


F. G. ROCKWELL, SR.
Colonel, CE
District Engineer

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