



3-12-1954

## Letter from Laura Knudson for Usher Burdick to Walter Burk Regarding Garrison Dam Energy Projections, March 12, 1954

Laura Page Knudson

[How does access to this work benefit you? Let us know!](#)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://commons.und.edu/burdick-papers>

---

### Recommended Citation

Knudson, Laura Page, "Letter from Laura Knudson for Usher Burdick to Walter Burk Regarding Garrison Dam Energy Projections, March 12, 1954" (1954). *Usher Burdick Papers*. 259.  
<https://commons.und.edu/burdick-papers/259>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Elwyn B. Robinson Department of Special Collections at UND Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Usher Burdick Papers by an authorized administrator of UND Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact [und.common@library.und.edu](mailto:und.common@library.und.edu).

March 12, 1954

Mr. Walter Burk  
Attorney at Law  
Williston, North Dakota

Dear Mr. Burk:

The enclosed material just came over by special messenger from the Army Engineers. I've had quite a time getting it before the end of the week, and inasmuch as this is Friday night, Mr. Burdick said to send it air-mail and not attempt to wire all the information.

I hope this will cover everything you wanted, and if there is anything further we can do here, please let us know, as we are always glad to be of assistance.

I was sorry not to see you and Mr. Davidson again before you left, but was home a week with the eye infection and they are still not entirely well, but I've been back in the office about two weeks now.

Kind regards and best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Laura Page K nudson  
Legislative Assistant to  
USHER L. BURDICK, M. C.

ENGWD

12 March 1954

Honorable Usher L. Burdick  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Burdick:

Reference is made to your telephone request to this office of 11 March 1954 concerning the loss of power at Garrison Reservoir with the operating pool lowered from elevation 1840 to 1830. I am pleased to furnish you the following information.

Lowering of the maximum normal operating pool of Garrison Reservoir from elevation 1850 to elevation 1840, from 1840 to 1830, and from 1850 to 1830, would result in the following reductions in power values:

	<u>1850-1840</u>	<u>1840-1830</u>	<u>1850-1830</u>
<u>At Garrison</u>			
Loss in dependable generating capacity	20,000 KW	21,000 KW	41,000 KW
Loss in annual generation	124,000,000 kwh	128,000,000 kwh	252,000,000 kwh
Increased energy for diversion pumping	24,400,000 kwh	22,400,000 kwh	46,800,000 kwh
<u>Downstream</u>			
Loss in critical year energy generation (net)	48,000,000 kwh	42,000,000 kwh	90,000,000 kwh
<u>Annual Power Value Losses</u>			
Garrison power	\$ 865,000	\$ 925,000	\$ 1,790,000
Downstream power	240,000	210,000	450,000
Increased diversion pumping costs	<u>154,000</u>	<u>141,000</u>	<u>295,000</u>
Total	\$ 1,259,000	\$ 1,276,000	\$ 2,535,000

Your attention is called to the dollar loss in power values as the item of primary significance in the listing above. An error has been made in some of the discussion of Garrison of focusing attention solely on kilowatt capacity loss at Garrison. The true dollar loss would include not only the cost of constructing alternative steam generation plants, but also of operating them and of producing (and in the case of lignite preparing) fuel for them which are relatively quite expensive.

For your information the total loss in annual benefits that would result from lowering the maximum normal operating pool of Garrison Reservoir is currently estimated as follows:

Elevation	1850-1840	\$1,589,000
	1840-1830	\$1,611,000
	1850-1830	\$3,200,000

As is well recognized in the Missouri River Basin the total losses in the basin through inability to utilize the acre-feet of water would be much greater than indicated in these estimates. The loss to downstream States, which are depending on adequately regulated flows in the Missouri River, would be quite serious.

Sincerely yours,

C. H. CHORPENING  
 Brigadier General, USA  
 Assistant Chief of Engineers  
 for Civil Works