



10-19-1945

## Joint Resolution from the Williston Township Farmer's Union Regarding Garrison Reservoir Pool Level, October 14, 1945

Williston Township Farmer's Union

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WILLISTON TOWNSHIP FARMERS UNION LOCAL # 404

Williston, North Dakota

JOINT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The operation of the pool of the Garrison Dam at the proposed "maximum normal operating pool level" of 1850 feet above sea-level will unnecessarily inundate thousands of acres of fertile bottom lands along the Missouri River in Williams and McKenzie Counties in North Dakota, thereby removing such lands from the tax rolls of said Counties with resulting loss of public revenue, and thereby taking such lands out of existing and potential production valued in hundreds of thousands of dollars annually, and thereby causing tens of thousands of dollars of severance damage to uplands, and thereby disturbing the homes of hundreds of longtime residents, and,

WHEREAS, The operation of such "maximum normal operating pool level" will damage and be a constant hazard to the City of Williston, installations of the Great Northern Railway, and the Lewis and Clark and the Buford-Trenton Irrigation Projects in the Williston area, and,

WHEREAS, The elaborate and costly system of levees and automatic pumps proposed by the Corps of Engineers of the Army for the protection of said City, railroad, and irrigation projects is of doubtful and speculative value and without engineering precedent in reclamation history, and,

WHEREAS, Disturbing and alarming fears in the minds of residents and property owners in the affected area have become widespread that the Corps of Engineers of the Army will operate said reservoir at such "maximum normal pool level", irrespective of the efficacy of its proposed protective works and irrespective of the inestimable damage, actual and potential, which will be caused thereby in the effected area, and,

WHEREAS, Such fears have already served to discourage large and small commercial and industrial investments and have had a demoralizing effect on the values of all property in the affected area, with resulting insecurity of our people, and,

WHEREAS, The operation of the pool of the Garrison Dam at a "maximum normal operating pool level" of 1830 feet above sea-level will allay such fears and will avert such damage and hazard without costly or speculative protective works, and,

WHEREAS, The public interest requires that such fears be allayed, that such damage and hazard be averted, and that there be no further fear, anxiety or uncertainty over the maximum level at which such pool may ever be operated, and,

WHEREAS, No hearings have ever been held or conducted in the Williston Area concerning the effect of such pool on people and property in the affected area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT JOINTLY RESOLVED, That we, municipalities and organizations in the affected area, are unalterably opposed to the operation of the pool of the Garrison Dam at a maximum level exceeding 1830 feet above sea level; that we demand that fair and impartial hearings and studies be held and conducted in the affected area by a special Congressional Committee; and that the maximum level at which such pool may ever be operated be, in all events, speedily, irrevocably, and authoritatively determined, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the North Dakota State Water Conservation Commission, the members of the Missouri Basin Inter-agency Committee; the Governors of the Missouri Basin States, the Commissioner, U. S. Bureau of Reclamation and Chief, Corps of Engineers, Washington, D. C., the Committee on Appropriations in the U. S. Senate and House of Representatives, and the Senators and Representatives in Congress from North Dakota.

Adopted by Williston Imp. F. W. Local #404  
this 19 day of October, 1945.

Population or number of  
members represented:

28

Mrs. G. B. Bowen U. Pres.

Mrs. Oscar Durham Sec.

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