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## Letter from J. Edward Williams to P. W. Lanier Urging Prompt Distribution of Payments Resulting from Judgment of Civil Case No. 2386, July 22, 1953

J. Edward Williams  
*US Department of Justice*

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33-35-242-985

July 22, 1953

AIR MAIL

Powless W. Lanier, Esquire  
United States Attorney  
Fargo, North Dakota

Dear Mr. Lanier:

This will make reference to the condemnation proceeding entitled United States v. Certain lands and improvements in McLean, Dunn, McKenzie and Mercer Counties, North Dakota, Rufus B. Stevenson, et al., and unknown owners, Civil No. 2386, instituted for the purpose of determining the just compensation to be paid for certain property which was vested in the United States by the Act of Congress approved October 29, 1949 (63 Stat. 1026), for use in connection with the Garrison Dam and Reservoir Project.

Pursuant to the telephone conversation had between Mr. Harry Lashkowitz of your office and Mr. Bodholdt of the Department, it will be appreciated if you will exert every possible effort in urging the Superintendent of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation to make prompt distribution to all the parties defendant named in the judgment entered July 17, 1953, and shown to have an interest in the property involved in the proceeding.

It will also be appreciated if you will furnish the Department with a certified copy of the judgment of July 17, 1953, in addition to the usual copies transmitted to the Department with the final transcript of the proceedings. This copy is desired for the benefit of Honorable William Langer, United States Senate. Your prompt attention to the foregoing will be very much appreciated both by the Department and Senator Langer.

Sincerely,

J. EDWARD WILLIAMS  
Acting Assistant Attorney General