



3-11-1955

Grafton City Resolution Sent to Senator Langer Regarding Pool Level, March 11, 1955

City of Grafton

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

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



Part of the [Political History Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

City of Grafton, "Grafton City Resolution Sent to Senator Langer Regarding Pool Level, March 11, 1955" (1955). *William Langer Papers*. 506.

<https://commons.und.edu/langer-papers/506>

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 William Langer Papers by an authorized administrator of UND Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact und.common@library.und.edu.

City of Grafton

GRAFTON, NORTH DAKOTA

CITY COUNCIL

DR. C. J. GLASPEL
PRESIDENT
H. F. HILLS
VICE PRESIDENT
ROBERT BARR
HELMER R. FIELD
GEORGE EGELAND
CARL M. TORKELSON
JEVON AASAND
DR. JOHN W. GORDER

March 11, 1955

Senator William Langer
Senator North Dakota
Washington, D. C.


Dear Senator:

Attached hereto is a Resolution adopted March 7, 1955, by the City Council of the City of Grafton.

It is the City's request that you give this Resolution, and particularly paragraph # 11 of this Resolution, your consideration.

Sincerely,

CITY OF GRAFTON


Earl F. Machart
City Auditor.

R E S O L U T I O N .

WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States, in the Flood Control Act of 1944, authorized the construction of the Garrison Dam in North Dakota to provide urgently needed flood protection, for diversion to the James, Sheyenne and Souris Rivers for the irrigation of over 1,000,000 acres of land in North and South Dakota, for production of hydro-electric power for rural electrification, municipal and industrial use, for municipal and industrial water supplies, stabilization of stream flows for stream pollution abatement and improved downstream navigation, for restoration of lakes, and for recreation and fish and wildlife conservation and propagation and other multiple benefits; and

WHEREAS, through the coordinated efforts of the Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the North Dakota State Water Conservation Commission and the Missouri Basin Interagency Committee it has been determined that a maximum operating pool level for the Garrison Reservoir of 1850 feet (above mean sea level) is the most economical and will insure a realization of the maximum potential benefits by meeting all requirements of water users, and, as a result of this determination, the Corps of Engineers have proceeded to plan, design and construct the facilities for the project for operation at this pool level; and

WHEREAS, adequate measures have been incorporated in the Garrison Dam and Reservoir project plan and designs for the protection of the City of Williston, the Lewis and Clark and Buford-Trenton Irrigation projects from any adverse effects caused by reservoir operation at the maximum pool level of 1850 feet so that there will not be any interference with the normal use of these areas; and

WHEREAS, the operating pool level of 1850 feet (above mean sea level) of the Garrison Dam project will insure the maximum production of hydro-electric power for rural electrification, irrigation, municipal and industrial use that, according to studies by the Federal Power Commission, the Missouri Basin Interagency Committee and others, will be needed by these users as soon as it is available; and

WHEREAS, the additional power revenues that would be earned by the power facilities at Garrison Dam when the reservoir for that project is operated at a maximum normal operating pool level of 1850 feet as compared to a lower level are needed to permit the maximum development of irrigation as authorized by the Congress of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the construction of main stem dams on the Missouri River will permit the construction and enhance the feasibility of small irrigation projects below and adjacent to these reservoirs because of the elimination of bank erosion, reduced power costs and flood protection afforded to the lands involved; and

WHEREAS, the diversion of water from the Missouri River into central and eastern North Dakota for irrigation, municipal water supplies, restoration of lakes, stream pollution abatement and other purposes has been advocated by many people in North Dakota for the past 70 years and a plan under investigation by the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation to accomplish this diversion by utilizing the waters stored in the Garrison Reservoir has been determined feasible and can be most efficiently accomplished if the Garrison Reservoir is operated at the 1850 foot pool level; and

WHEREAS, any reduction of the operating pool level of Garrison Reservoir will be a waste of its capacity to store reserve water for irrigation, municipal water supply, hydro-electric power production and other uses during periods of drought; and

WHEREAS, the Garrison Dam and Reservoir project is now over 80% complete and to curtail progress so as to prevent or delay its full utilization by restricting the operation of the reservoir at an elevation below 1850 feet for flood protection, irrigation, hydro-electric power production and other multiple uses would result in major losses of potential benefits to the City of Grafton, the people of North Dakota and the entire Missouri Basin, and would not be consistent with good conservation practices; and

WHEREAS, the City of Grafton is faced with the problem of providing an adequate water supply for municipal and industrial purposes and is vitally interested in supplementing its present supply with water from the Garrison Reservoir that will be available through the Garrison Diversion project, the feasibility of which is recognized by the City of Grafton to be, to a great extent, dependent on the operating pool level of the Garrison Reservoir being established at 1850 feet (above mean sea level); and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED By the City Council of the City of Grafton that the said City Council of the City of Grafton do hereby petition and request the Congress of the United States to withdraw all restrictions on the completion of the Garrison Dam ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ and Reservoir Project to operate at the maximum operating pool level of 1850 feet (above mean sea level), and to appropriate sufficient funds to enable the Corps of Engineers to proceed with the project at an efficient rate in procurement of real estate for planning and construction of the project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be mailed to the Congressional Representatives of the State of North Dakota.

Dated March 11, 1955.