

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Jeffrey
Vice Chairman Redelsperger
Assemblyman Dini
Assemblyman DuBois
Assemblyman Kovacs
Assemblyman Mello
Assemblyman Polish
Assemblyman Schofield

MEMBERS ABSENT: Assemblyman Rhoads

OTHERS PRESENT: Senator Lawrence Jacobsen
Dave Deats
Bob Sullivan
Jack Warnicke
Bill Huss

Vice Chairman Redelsperger called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and noted that the first item of business would be SJR 35.

SJR 35: Requests Secretary of Interior to direct Commissioner of Water and Power Resources Service to give high priority to revision of development plan for Watasheamu Dam.

Senator Lawrence Jacobsen, Capitol District, said that he had discussed this resolution with Senator Laxalt who was in favor of reinstating and upgrading this study. He noted that there was a first reprint on the resolution because Senator Getto felt that the original language was erroneous. He said that the original intent of the Watasheamu project was for flood control and irrigation but now the emphasis is domestic water with the inclusion of flood control, irrigation, recreational opportunities and power generation.

He indicated that Churchill County over the past few years have been adverse to this project because they felt it might restrict the flow and their usage of the water. He felt that the water problems at Lahonton today would have been minor if Watasheamu had been constructed earlier because the problems occur when the watershed is low. He noted that it is time to take another look at this plan and to update it as to current needs with consideration given to adjudicated water rights.

Senator Jacobsen said that Senator Laxalt indicated that if this bill passed, he would make an effort to obtain some federal funding for the project.

In response to Mr. DuBois' question, Senator Jacobsen explained that there was a power dam at this site at one time that produced

power for the valley and raised the water level for some of the ranches for irrigation. He noted that the plans for the Watasheamu project have already been developed and only need updating.

Mr. Jack Warnicke, Chairman of the Carson River Basin Council of Governments, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Carson-Walker Resource Conservation and Development District, introduced Mr. Bob Sullivan, Executive Director of the Carson River Basin Council of Governments, and Mr. Dave Deats, member of the Planning Department in Douglas County. He said that he and these other gentlemen favor this measure. He commented that with the energy crunch this project could be a useful source of power.

Mr. Bob Sullivan said that the lower basin entities also support this resolution because of the great need for flood control, irrigation in June and July when the runoff is in May, erosion control, power and domestic water supply.

Mr. Dave Deats said that the Douglas County Board of Commissioners unanimously adopted a resolution recommending the reevaluation of the project with number one priority. (See Exhibit A)

Mr. Sullivan commented that there were resolutions from other counties including Alpine County in California.

Since there was no further testimony on SJR 35, Chairman Jeffrey moved on to SB 574.

SB 574: Extends review of indirect sources of air pollution by certain state agencies.

Mr. Bill Huss, an Attorney from Carson City, appeared on behalf of his client, Harrah's Hotel and Casino at South Lake Tahoe, Nevada. He said that SB 574 would permit the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection to process applications for registration certificates pursuant to old regulations that are contained in the Nevada State Implementation Plan. He noted that the reason for bringing back the Indirect Source Review is that Harrah's, the Sahara Tahoe and most likely Harvey's now find themselves in a bureaucratic "Catch 22" no man's land where they cannot obtain a registration certificate. Even though the legislature revoked the Indirect Source Review, according to Mr. Huss the Clean Air Act provides that the state implementation plan that is effected in a given state is that implementation plan that was last approved by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency; unfortunately for the State of Nevada, the last plan approved includes the indirect source provision. He stressed that a registration certificate is required but without SB 574, there is no one who can issue such a certificate.

Mr. Jeffrey asked why there was a problem in Douglas County that did not occur in the rest of the state, and Mr. Huss

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replied that it is the State of California who objects to any activity that takes place on the Nevada side especially if it is connected with the gaming industry; that they cannot move forward because of a suit filed by the State of California that sought an injunction enjoining the construction parking garage projects at the lake and as an outcome of this suit the court said that they must use the implementation plan last approved by the Federal Government.

Mr. Huss commented that he was not in favor of reactivating indirect source review but it is the only alternative available at the present time.

When Mr. Schofield asked how this would affect the rest of the state, Mr. Huss said that it will not affect other portions of the state because it is totally permissive, in other words the department may review applications if applications are submitted.

Mr. Dini suggested that this should be tied to the bi-state compact, and Mr. Huss indicated that this could be done by changing page 2, line 5, to read: "The department may review any indirect source proposed to be constructed after June 30, 1981 for a project located in an area of the state that is governed by a bi-state regional planning agency." He noted one additional clerical change on line 7, changing the word "until" to "unless".

Mr. Dick Certos, Air Quality Officer for the State of Nevada, made it clear that this is not an Environmental Protection Division bill, and with the provision in the bill for collection of a fee for operating the program chargeable to the applicant, it will not be necessary to change the department's budget. He noted that there are other bi-state compacts such as the Colorado River Compact.

Mr. Schofield moved to AMEND SB 574 as outlined above and DO PASS AS AMENDED, seconded by Mr. Redelsperger and carried unanimously by the members present with Mr. Rhoads absent at the time of the vote.

Mr. Dini moved DO PASS on SJR 35, seconded by Mr. Schofield and carried unanimously by the members present with Mr. Rhoads absent at the time of the vote.

Since there was no further business, Chairman Jeffrey adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy E. Sappenfield
Committee Secretary

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ASSEMBLY

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

AGENDA FOR COMMITTEE ON AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WEDNESDAY

Date May 27, 1981 Time 9:30 A.M. Room 214

Bills or Resolutions
to be considered

Subject

Counsel
requested*

SB 574

Extends review of indirect sources of air pollution by certain state agencies.

SJR 35

Requests Secretary of Interior to direct Commissioner of Water and Power Resources Service to give high priority to revision of development plan for Watasheamu Dam.

NR-35 2/27/81
J. L. ...

RESOLUTION NO. 81-12

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE REEVALUATION
OF THE WATASHEAMU PROJECT
BY THE WATER AND POWER RESOURCES SERVICE

WHEREAS, agriculture is a vital segment of our economy and flooding of the Carson Valley could destroy agriculture and cause severe damage to urban areas, and

WHEREAS, the Soil Conservation Service has determined that extensive channel damage and floodplain inundation will occur along the East Fork of the Carson River unless upstream flood control storage is provided and

WHEREAS, normal spring runoff flows exceed quantities recommended for a stabile river channel and

WHEREAS, any irrigation structures or highway bridges may sustain damage unless flood flows are controlled

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Douglas County Board of Commissioners that on behalf of all residents the County formally requests the Water and Power Resources Service to reevaluate the Watasheamu Project and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Watasheamu Project be given the number one priority by the WPRS.

ADOPTED this 19th day of February, 1981
by the following vote;

AYES: Commissioners Herbert Witt

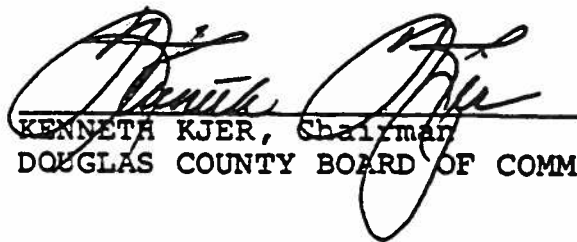
Barbara Cook

M. D. Meyer

R. A. Oswald

NAYS: Commissioners _____

ABSENT: Commissioner _____


KENNETH KJER, Chairman

DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:


YVONNE BERNARD, Clerk