

Bill Murphey

From: "Bill Murphey" <bmurphey@cox.net>
To: "Bill Murphey" <bmurphey@cox.net>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2006 6:13 PM
Subject: WAPA Hydro Contract

Ms Jean Gray
WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION
615 S. 43rd Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Ms Gray;

The Cibola Valley Irrigation and Drainage District is by law an irrigation, electrical and drainage district chartered under the State Laws and revised by a special act in 1978.

Our usage of approximately 1,000,000 kilowatt hours yearly varies very little since we have three pumps and only use two at any one time allowing us to repair one when necessary without shutting down the system.

We have furnished records of usage to your office before and any twelve month period of usage would be approximately the same.

Since it is known how much water each pump delivers per hour and usage records are required by the BOR in acre feet, each user time of usage of a pump is charged to him in acre feet rather than kilowatt hours.

Although we are late in reporting to you our recent usage, it is approximately the same for recent years.

Our original discussions with Roy Tinsley included the idea of dividing one megawatt between the CVID, the City of Blythe (Blythe Mesa Electrical District) and the Ehrenburg Improvement Association which has about 400 water users and about 1,000 acres of farmland in the district under separate BOR water contracts.

There are about 4,000 acres of farm land irrigated in the CVID--about 25% of which are Arizona State School Trust Lands and about 50% are owned by the Federal/State Multi-Species rehabilitation Trust. Only about 25% remain in private ownership of which 40% are in subdivision homes.

The district has been entitled to Hydro Power for over 40 years but due to a lack of communication a hydro contract was never acquired.

All these areas can prove a capacity of usage. A large portion of the Blythe allotment would immediately be used on farmlands most adjoining the Blythe Substation until arrangement could be made with SCE for delivery to the Blythe Municipal Golf Course now under severe stress and other private and public uses.

There is no industry in these areas and employment is largely agricultural. Tractor drivers, irrigators and farm workers are at the low end of the wage scale. They cannot afford the extremely high home cooling electrical rates in the area of the longest, hottest summers in the U.S.

It is excruciatingly painful to try to survive using lower energy cost desert swamp cooler during the high humidity periods of July and August. We are in one of the hottest areas in the world.

The train may be at the station but we are suffering.

Although we have no evidence of an unfairness in the WAPA suggested Hydro allotments we feel that they have not received the very compelling evidence in our favor.

The power companies grow into giant bureaucracies. I expect the average SCE employee earns 300% of that of a farmworker in our area plus liberal retirement plans. Retirement plans are unheard of in agriculture. In the Riverside area wages are much higher than in the Blythe area but home cooling costs are much lower.

We will have additional information shortly. Thank you.

9/10/2006