

Water Resources Division
Surface Water Branch
P. O. Box 413
Logan, Utah
Feb. 3, 1949

*Letter to serve as
minutes of 2nd meeting
of Engineering Committee
Logan Utah January 28, 29, 1949*

Mr. E. O. Larsen, Regional Director
Bureau of Reclamation
P. O. Box 360
Salt Lake City 8, Utah

Dear Mr. Larsen:

Report on Bear River Compact Engineering Committee meeting at Logan,
Utah January 28 and 29, 1949.

Present at meeting:

- W. V. Lorns - Chairman
- E. K. Thomas - Representing Bureau of Reclamation
- C. O. Roskelly - Representing Utah
- Lynn Grandall - Representing Idaho
- R. D. Goodrich - Representing Wyoming

Others present at the meeting were:

- E. J. Skeen - Attorney, Bureau of Reclamation and Chairman of
Bear River Compact Legal Committee
- John Steele, Engineer - Bureau of Reclamation
- Dean Bishoff, Engineer - Bureau of Reclamation
- E. J. Baird - Water Master District No. 5, Idaho
- A. B. Harris, Engineer - U. S. Geological Survey
- W. N. Jibson, Engineer - U. S. Geological Survey

The meeting convened at about 2:00 p.m. The Chairman stated that the letter dated December 29, 1948 reporting the stream gaging program to the state engineers, would serve as a report and minutes of that meeting. Mr. Leshar S. Wing had written that it would be impossible for him to attend the January meeting. The object of this meeting was to get the work properly organized to accomplish the assignments given the Committee by the Commission. However, before embarking too much into assembling the data it was deemed advisable to obtain some advice from the Legal Committee on the Compact problem. For this reason Mr. Skeen had been invited to attend the meeting and discuss the compacting problem with the Engineering Committee.

Mr. Skeen pointed out that the Bear River Compact is considerably different from other compacts, in that it crosses and recrosses state lines so many times. The multitude of vested rights in the river's waters must be given full consideration because if major interests are adversely affected

the river

there will be small hope of obtaining ratification. It is apparent that large storage users below Bear Lake will oppose any Compact granting major storage to the upper basin. Although they may not oppose a reasonable storage allowance for the upper basin. In contrast to this, the upper basin users are demanding considerable upstream storage. In addition, there was some evidence that the upper Idaho users were not in accord with the proposed division between the lower Wyoming section and the upper Idaho section.

There was considerable discussion of the possibility of obtaining an agreeable Compact and the various points involved. It was the consensus of opinion of those present at the Engineering meeting that the Legal Committee should meet at an early date to explore the situation before too much detailed work was done by the Engineering Committee in compiling data on storage throughout the river basin.

The specific problems assigned to the Committee were then taken up and proposed division of work made. Inasmuch as practically all of the information was available in the Bureau of Reclamation and Geological Survey offices, these two agencies should compile the data, calling on the State representatives as needed for additional help on any part of the work. The nature and indeterminate aspects of the problems will not permit detailed accurate compilations in many cases and such data will need be so labeled.

1. Determination of supplemental water supply needed by water users, both above and below Bear Lake.

Bureau of Reclamation to prepare a report and tabulations showing present storage on main stem and tributaries, required additional storage needed for each river section and tributary and known possible storage sites available for each.

<u>River Section or Tributary</u>	<u>Supplemental Requirements on Present Lands</u>	<u>Present Developed Storage</u>	<u>Known Possible Storage sites Available</u>
---------------------------------------	---	--	---

1. Upper Wyoming Section

- Mill Creek
- Sulphur Creek
- Main Stem and Yellow Creek
- Nepomset

2. Middle Utah Section

- a. Main Stem
- b. Woodruff Creek
- c. Big Creek
- d. Little Creek
- e. Otter Creek

2. Investigation of the effect on existing water rights of future storage projects on the main stem of Bear River and its tributaries, both above and below Bear Lake.
 - ✓ (a) Geological Survey office to prepare a tabulation of stream flow at various river points, tabulation segregating Bear Lake operation as to power and irrigation water.
 - (b) Geological Survey office to prepare studies as to effect of storage on tributaries.
 - (c) Geological Survey office to prepare studies showing upstream storage in various combinations and amounts and probable effects of this on downstream rights.
 - (d) Geological Survey office to prepare studies of later application of storage water to lands in the upper basin.
3. Study of potential irrigation of new lands both above and below Bear Lake.

Bureau of Reclamation to prepare this:
Specific projects and lands; water supply available, etc.

4. Determination for Compact purposes of the nature and extent of existing water rights.

Agreed by Engineering Committee that this problem belongs to the Legal Committee, although the Engineering Committee will assist in supplying any data requested.

5. Study of the question as to whether the scope of the Compact should be enlarged to include the main stem of Bear River to Great Salt Lake and the Malad River.

Agreed by the Committee that the Compact should extend to Great Salt Lake. Data on main stem water rights already included in reports. Available data needed on Malad River rights will be assembled. The Legal Committee should also give this question consideration.

The Committee adjourned at 11:00 a.m., January 29, 1949 with date of next meeting to be announced by the Chairman at a later date.

cc: E. K. Thomas
E. J. Skeen
C. O. Roskelly
Lynn Crandall
H. D. Goodrich
L. C. Bishop
Ed. H. Watson
M. R. Kulp
Chief Hydraulic Engineer

Sincerely yours,

W. V. Iorns, Chairman
Bear River Compact Engineering Committee

copies referred to
 1/31/49
 6/1/49
 Bill
 09 of May 26, 1949

Received
 1/31/49
 6/1/49