Bureau of Reclamation's Budget Requests

The President's fiscal year 1984 budget requests approximately $1 billion in new budget authority for the Bureau of Reclamation for planning, developing, and operating water resources projects in the 17 Western States.

The budget request represents an increase of $207 million over the $795 million available for Reclamation activities in fiscal year 1983 under the Continuing Resolution. The President has submitted an amendment for an additional $20 million in budget authority to begin work on 10 new water resources projects in fiscal year 1983. Second-year funding requests of $34 million for these new projects have been included in the fiscal year 1984 budget request.

The construction request of $699 million for fiscal year 1984 will allow work to continue on 73 projects, and will fund preconstruction work on one project and the initiation of rehabilitation and betterment work on seven projects. Among the major projects included in the budget request are the Central Arizona Project; the Bonneville Unit of the Central Utah Project; four separate units within the Central Valley Project in California; the Chief Joseph Dam and Columbia Basin Projects in Washington; the Dallas Creek, Dolores, and San Luis Valley Projects in Colorado; the Garrison Diversion Unit in North Dakota; the McGee Project in Oklahoma; and the North Loup Division in Nebraska. Construction work also will continue on salinity control facilities in four Colorado River Basin States.

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A $17 million increase in funding for Reclamation loan programs is included in the fiscal year 1984 budget request. The proposed $42 million will allow work to continue on 11 projects authorized under the Small Reclamation Projects Act and three projects authorized under the Distribution System Loans Act.

The budget request for Reclamation's General Investigations Program is at the same level as 1983; however, six new studies are included in the $32 million budget. The new studies, which emphasize energy production, municipal and industrial water supply, and Indian water resources development, are: All American Canal Relocation, California; Bedias Reservoir Project, Texas; Big Sandy Project, Texas; Blue Holes Reservoir, Wyoming; New Melones Conveyance System Study and Land Classification, California; and San Jacinto River Basin, Texas. Advance planning studies, included under the Construction Program request until 1983, are now part of the General Investigations Program. Three new advance planning studies have been proposed for fiscal year 1984. They are: Lake Andes-Wagner Water Diversion Proposal, South Dakota; Lower Gunnison Basin Unit, Colorado; and Marias-Milk Project, Montana.

For operation and maintenance activities on 32 projects, $145 million is requested for fiscal year 1984. This is an increase of $25 million over the 1983 continuing resolution appropriation.

The fiscal year 1984 budget request includes $53 million for General Administrative Expenses, compared to the $40 million appropriated in fiscal year 1983. One million dollars is requested for the Emergency Fund in 1984. The $2.7 million request in Permanent Appropriations for fiscal year 1984 is the same amount appropriated in fiscal year 1983.

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