Glen Canyon Peaking Power Study to be Concluded

An investigation of the feasibility of producing additional peaking power at Glen Canyon Dam is being concluded, Commissioner of Reclamation Robert N. Broadbent announced today.

The purpose of the study was to determine the feasibility of increasing the peaking power capacity at Glen Canyon Powerplant by 250 megawatts by adding two additional generators to the outlet works and the related impacts of such an increase in peaking capacity.

Clifford Barrett, Upper Colorado Regional Director said, "Although the benefits exceed the cost, the investigation is being concluded for two reasons: (1) there was a lack of strong public support for the project and (2) termination will help in achieving budget cuts sought by President Reagan."

Comments at Reclamation public meetings held in Phoenix, Flagstaff, and Page, Ariz., and Denver, Colo., generally did not support continuing the Glen Canyon Study. Much public concern was expressed over the possible interference with public rafting use in the Grand Canyon.

Since the need for peaking power remains and there is public support for it generally, Commissioner Broadbent said, "Reclamation's continuing investigations at several other sites may prove to be more acceptable than the Glen Canyon site. In both the northern and southern portions of the Colorado River Storage Project marketing area, several sites have been identified that could produce more power than the Glen Canyon site would have produced."

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