

Statement of the Missouri River States Committee  
concerning forthcoming Congressional Hearings on the  
Missouri Valley Authority Bill, S. 555.

---

Adopted by the Committee, meeting at Omaha, Nebraska,  
on August 15, 1945.

---

" The committee continues to oppose the delegation of authority to any commission, board, agency or authority, by whatever name that would function with unchecked powers in the control of natural resources. Therefore, we endorse the adverse report of the Senate Commerce committee on a proposal to create a valley authority and recommend against any legislation which would have that effect.

" We urge that each and every member state of the Missouri River States Committee continue its vigorous representation before any and all Congressional committees considering S. 555, to the end that the efforts thus far made be not relaxed but rather strengthened in order that our position may be continuously before the Congress so long as this measure is being considered. "

- - - - -



Statement of Policy and Recommendations  
of  
the Missouri River States Committee.

---

Adopted by the Committee, meeting at Omaha, Nebraska,  
on August 15, 1945.

---

The Missouri River States Committee representing 10 member states, meeting in Omaha, Nebr., August 15, 1945, commends the progress made on the Missouri Basin program since its last session of April 5, 1945, reaffirms support of the unified development plans established by the Flood Control Act of 1944 and offers the engineering plans now nearing completion as a constructive works program for the Missouri Basin in the immediate post-war era.

Under the authority of the 1944 Act, Congress appropriated funds for planning and both the Army Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation now have designs of dams and work programs practically ready for the contract stage, so that with the war at an end, actual construction can begin when funds are appropriated therefor.

Further following out the policy declared in the 1944 Act, an Inter-agency committee has been created with state participation and is now meeting regularly to expedite a coordinated program satisfactory to the federal government and the people of the 10 member states.

The Missouri River States Committee recommends:

1. That appropriations for projects ready for construction now be made in accordance with existing congressional authorization in sufficient amount as will measure up to available materials and manpower, thereby making a contribution to post-war employment while obtaining for an area comprising one-fifth of the nation, the permanent benefits of the over-all Missouri Basin plan.
2. A continuing adjustment of all the detailed specifications of engineers as they appear in the day by day preparations for building individual projects - to the end that each project may make the greatest possible contribution to the comprehensive basin-wide development.
3. That continuing efforts be made thru existing agencies in co-operation with the states for land and water use policies that will bring development advantageous to the regions affected, with differing benefits



to each area thru the irrigation or drainage of land, the control of floods, assistance to navigation, production of power, and all other community, industrial or domestic beneficial uses and conservation of these resources - all in the national interest.

4. We continue to urge, as heretofore, that during the planning, construction and operation of these facilities in the Missouri river water-shed, that Congress respect the lawful rights of the states as well as safeguard their economic interests and the general welfare of the resident people.

In conclusion, this committee of governors and their advisers, with constantly increasing interest, pledges state cooperation at all times in making and executing programs for the development of the land and water resources of the 10 states; and, in view of the policy announced in the Flood Control Act of 1944, and the progress made thereunder for a unified, basin-wide development, state our belief that the interests of all the people will be best advanced by supporting the coordinated plan of the Bureau of Reclamation and the Corps of Army Engineers.

- - - -