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1907-08-03

Letter from W[illia]m Ham Hall to The Board of Directiors Turlock Irrigation District, [190]7 Aug 3.

William Ham Hall

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San Francisco, August 3<sup>rd</sup>

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The Board of Directors,  
Furlock Irrigation District,  
Stanislaus County, Cal.

Gentlemen:

The undersigned is the Chief Engineer and the authorized representative of the Sierra Ditch and Water Company, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, for the purpose of storing, distributing and selling waters for irrigation and other public purposes.

The Sierra Ditch and Water Company has duly located and fully complied with the laws of the United States and the Departmental regulations established thereunder, in the process of acquiring full recognized right to use a number of reservoir sites within the watershed of the Cherry-Eleanor branch of the Tuolumne River, and it expects that its filing maps will be approved by the Secretary of the Interior as the Act of Congress directs shall be done when the provisions of said law are complied with by a legal person qualified to avail of its grants.

The Sierra Ditch and Water Company also has water-rights located under the laws of the State of California, and fully maintained and kept alive by work ever since they were located, as the State law provides for, which water-rights are applicable and sufficient for the storage of water within the reservoir sites above mentioned.

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The Sierra Ditch and Water Company has acquired by purchase all the land in private ownership within the reservoir sites referred to, which, in several cases, consists of large areas of land. Finally, the Sierra Ditch and Water Company has equipped camps on its own lands, and has located roads and built trails, at a large expense, to facilitate access to these points. In a word, this Company has, by the exercise of due diligence, systematic endeavor and the expenditure of a large sum of money, put itself in position to reservoir the surplus or flood waters of the Cherry-Eleanor branch of the Tuolumne River, and to dispose of or use the same for irrigation and other public purposes, and in the manner prescribed by the laws of the State of California and of the General Government.

We note that you have said that your irrigation district will probably in the near future be in need of more water for irrigation during the so-called "dry months" than the Tuolumne River, at such times, supplies. Therefore, we represent to you that we expect to be in position to supply a considerable volume of water during these months of scarcity, and if you are in a position to, and desire to entertain a proposal for such supply, we will submit one as soon as we have a basis on which to do so definitely. We feel sure that we will be able to furnish you with reservoired waters at rates cheaper than you would be able to secure such a supply by means of any works that you could yourselves carry out, even though you had the storage sites.

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I call your attention to the fact that the Cherry-Eleanor Fork of the Tuolumne River is the largest fork of that river that heads back against the high range of the Sierras and lying to the north of the Main Fork of that river, within the watershed of which latter the Hetch-Hetchy Valley lies. A water supply from reservoirs on the Cherry-Eleanor Fork would in no way conflict with water claims or water storage works on the said Main Fork.

I am addressing a precisely similar letter to this to the Directors of the Modesto Irrigation District.

Yours very truly,

*Wm. H. Hall,  
Ch. Engr. & Surveyor  
Sierra D. T. W. Co.,*