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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
FIELD SERVICE
Window Rock Area Office
Window Rock, Arizona

Memorandum:

To : Mr. Allan G. Harper, Area Director
From : John J. Schwarz, Const. & Maint. Supt.
Subject : Water Supply Program

In compliance with your recent request following is a brief outline of our cooperative program with the Geological Survey and our water supply work:

In January 1948 the office of Indian Affairs requested the Ground Water Branch of the Geological Survey to conduct an investigation of the ground-water resources of the Navajo Country. The objective of the program is two fold: To aid this office in locating and developing ground-water supplies for livestock, domestic and community use; and to prepare a comprehensive report on the ground water resources and geology of the region, which will serve as a guide to further development and utilization of the available water supply.

This work is financed by the Indian Service by transferring regular appropriate funds to the Survey for their work. To-date the following transfers of funds have been made: 1948 - \$20,500; 1949 - \$25,000; 1950 - \$50,000; 1951 - \$150,000; 1952 - \$50,000, making a total of \$295,500. If sufficient funds are provided, it is planned that the field work will be completed by September 1952 and that the manuscript of a Water-Supply Paper will be submitted for approval by July 1953.

The investigations and studies and individual reports have been completed at the following school sites:

Thoreau, Kaibeto, Chilcheechilgeetho, Twin Lakes, Ft. Defiance, Lukachukai, Sanostee, Pinon, Mexican Springs, Pine Springs, Naschitti, Wingate, Kayenta, Chinle, Burnham, Klagetoh, Steamboat, Window Rock, Teenospos, Tuba City, Torreon, Mariano Lake, Buell Park, Crown Point, Iyanbito, Keams Canyon, Navajo Mountain, Tohatchi, Toadalena and Baca.

Studies and investigations have, also, been completed on sites for twenty-three Government Range Water wells and thirty sites for proposed wells to be drilled by the Tribe. In addition to the above studies a number of investigations were made for individual Indians, for business and domestic wells.

Our relations with the Geological Survey personnel has been very harmonious and the organization and supervision of the entire program under the direction of Mr. L. C. Halpenny, Engineer, has been excellent.

Attached is a copy of preliminary report by the Geological Survey which presents a very good resume of their work.

Range Water Supply:

The objectives of the Water Supply Branch are to operate and maintain present developments, expand and improve existing sources of groundwater wherever possible and to develop new sources needed to care for domestic needs adequately, and provide stock-water so that proper utilization of range by livestock may be obtained. To act as consultant on water supply matters to all other Branches and to individual Indians.

As there are no provisions in the Authorization Bill of the Long Range Program for the development of drilled wells, for range water, it is necessary to use a portion of the regular funds each year for this purpose. The small amount of money available for wells does not enable us to have a comprehensive well program, but allows only the drilling of a few wells which are located in areas where the need for water is greatest.

During the present drouth we have drilled and equipped with windmills, storage tanks and troughs five wells in 1950, six wells in 1951 and propose to drill seven wells during the present fiscal year. We have initiated a policy of having the Indians in communities where wells are drilled to assume the responsibility of maintaining the developments wherever it is possible.

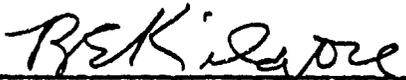
Tribal Well Program:

The Navajo Tribal Council in April 1951; in an effort to relieve the critical stock-water shortage during the present drouth, authorized the expenditure of \$250,000 of Tribal funds for the drilling of one well in each district and provide storage and distribution facilities as far as funds permit. To this amount an additional sum of \$45,000 was diverted from regular Agency funds to supply materials, equipment and some labor for the construction and erection of storage tanks and troughs at the Tribal wells.

The locations and priorities for the wells were set-up by representatives of the Tribal Council and Chapter Officers, the technical assistance was provided by the Agency.

To-date nine of the Tribal wells have been completed and are now in use.

APPROVED:



R. E. Kilgore, Acting Director
Division of Resources