Navajo Agency
Fort Defiance N.M. Sept 25

Hon Commissioner
of Indian Affairs
Washington D.C.

Sir:-

I beg leave to call your attention to my estimate for funds for the purpose of completing the dam and irrigating ditch and other improvements, submitted July 3rd; and to ask that the letter of transmittal accompanying that estimate be again considered. The work must stop, early in next month, if additional funds are not provided; and in that case the money already expended will be wholly lost; excepting of course the value of the secured material.

With the exception of a few minor articles such as burlaps (for sand bags) and arrow iron rods, I now have on

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thereof all the materials necessary for the final completion of the work, but at the close of this month there will remain but about three hundred dollars ($3.00) to continue the work. This is not enough. As reported, in my last monthly report, a serious mishap befell us early in August. A freshet coming down from the mountains there through the Cuivre Bernito (in which the dam was being constructed) carried away one half of the dam and greatly injured the remaining portion, inflicting a loss of fully three fourths of all our work. The heavy and continuous rains this summer did additional damage in seriously impeding the delivery of the timbers and plank. The road between the Agency and Hamulita (our shipping point) becomes a perfect quagmire in wet weather and it is impossible to get freighting done unless at greatly increased

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rates - and sometimes not even then.

I cannot urge too strongly the necessity for prompt action. If the amount asked for in previous estimate cannot be furnished, I would advise that the sum of Eighteen hundred dollars ($1800.00) be provided, to be spent in making secure the work already begun and thus prevent its becoming a total loss. This sum, if allowed, will be used for Indian labor alone, with the single exception of one white man as foreman.

I beg to enclose herewith a supplementary estimate for the amount now asked for.

Very Respectfully
D. M. Riordan
Agent

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