

March 26, 1918

5-1143

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
UNITED STATES INDIAN IRRIGATION SERVICE
SUPERINTENDENT OF IRRIGATION



Albuquerque N. M., March 26, 1918.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington. (Thro the Chief Engineer).

Sir:

I am in receipt of a communication from Foreman Womack in charge of the Navajo and Hopi Water Development, relative to the advisability of putting in one well in the Hopi country of a larger size than those put down for stock water, to test out the possibility of pumping a sufficient quantity of water for irrigation.

The Indians are very anxious to have this tested out, and if a success they stand ready to purchase at their own expense the pump, engine and all equipment necessary as well as the expense of moving the drill to the locality.

The cost to this service will be the time spent in drilling the hole, which as the water is only about 50 to 60 feet from the surface will not take much time, and the casing, which we have on hand.

A copy of Mr. Womack's letter is enclosed.

I would recommend that this be done. For some time I have had such a test in mind, and had told Mr. Womack and the driller to bear it in mind if the indications would at any place seem to warrant the work.

These Indians have no irrigation, and they need some assistance along these lines, and if they are so progressive that they are willing to bear the brunt of the work and expense they should be encouraged.

Very respectfully,

Superintendent of Irrigation.

April 1 1918
Respectfully forwarded to the Commissioner
of Indian Affairs, with the recommendation
that it be approved if funds available.
W. S. Hanna
Subl. of Irrigation

RG75, B1A, E.653
Irrig. Div., Dist 5
Hopi-Mogui 1918

C O P Y.

Polacca Ariz. Mar. 18, 1918.

Mr. H. F. Robinson,
Superintendent of Irrigation,
Albuquerque N. M.

Dear Sir:

Recently we developed a well in the Oraibi Valley for stock water, and found an unusual strong flow, and were able to pump with a 2½" cylinder 1100 gallons per hour, and the log of the well indicates good coarse gravel and a good depth of water. However, it was not possible to tell the amount of water that can be developed with the small 3½" casing we are using, and as a matter of testing this valley for larger flows I think it would be a good idea to drill a well here for that purpose.

The Indians are willing to bear all expenses of moving etc., also will buy the pump, engine and all necessary to connect it up for irrigation. For testing out the well we have an old engine that has been discarded from one of the well rigs that could be turned over to them to test out with and serve until they can get their new engine installed.

This well is not far from the school and another stock water well, and in case they should fail, from any reason, this one could be used.

This well would determine the underlying formation which will be good data for reference in the future.

This group of Indians will furnish all casing, pump cylinder, pumping jack, and all necessary connections for connecting up the well, so this service will not be out anything excepting the drilling which will take only a few days.

Yours very respectfully,
Alexander H. Womack,