

Written Text produced on March 21, 2002 of Testimony of Gary Hansen, Water Resources Director, Colorado River Indian Tribes, for State Water Resources Control Board Hearing on Proposed Water Transfer Between Imperial Irrigation District and San Diego County Water Authority

My name is Gary Hansen. I am the Water Resources Director of the Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT). I have held this position since 1993. I am the first Water Resources Director for the Tribes and have designed and implemented the Tribes Water Resources Department. I have a masters degree in Water Resources Administration from the University of Arizona and a Juris Doctorate from the University fo Arizona College of Law.

I have submitted written documentation to support this testimony. That documentation includes a January 9, 1997 Executive Summary of the Repayment of Federal Investment in the Headgate Rock Dam Powerplant, produced by the Bureau of Indian Affairs Colorado River Agency. This Executive Summary also includes a memo dated October 8, 1996 from the U.S. Department of Interior Field Solicitor, Phoenix Field Office, regarding the "Inspector General's Audit Concerning Repayment of the Federal Investment in the Headgate Rock Dam Powerplant", also a memorandum dated October 16, 1985 for "Request for Secretarial Approval of Initiation of Construction of the Headgate Rock Hydroelectric Project, Arizona, Pursuant to the FY 1985 Supplemental Appropriations Act (P.L. 99-88)", and a copy of the "Headgate Rock Hydroelectric Project Advanced Planning Report" prepared for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, June 1980, by the Water and Power Resources Service (Bureau of Reclamation).

Headgate Rock Dam was authorized under the River and Harbors Act of 1935. The construction was initiated in 1938 by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and completed in 1941. The Dan was designed to provide permanent diversion facilities for the irrigation of land in Arizona on the CRIT Reservation. Generation of power necessary to irrigate indian lands was also authorized in the original legislation. The Dam is owned by the United States and operated by the BIA.

In January, 1977, the CRIT Tribal Council requested federal assistance in the construction of hydroelectric power generation facilities as part of Headgate Rock Dam for the purposes of expanding irrigation of land, supporting water-oriented recreation and engaging in residential development, all of which was directed at increasing the economic development of the Tribe and its members.

In 1980, the Bureau of Reclamation, upon a request by the BIA, produced a feasibility report on the Headgate Rock Hydroelectric Project including detailed analysis of the power production from

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Colorado River flows. This report anticipated that all the power that could be produced by the powerplant would be used on the CRIT Reservation to operate the irrigation and drainage facilities and to supply a portion of the residential and commercial power requirements of the Reservation lands. This report was the basis for a Congressional appropriation under Public Law 99-88 for construction of the Headgate Rock Powerplant. The Powerplant was subsequently constructed and is in operation today.

