

29, 1935 (the Bankhead-Jones Act), as amended (7 U. S. C. 427-427j), is amended by adding at the end of section 10 thereof the following:

60 Stat. 1085.  
7 USC 427i.

“(e) Appropriations for research work in the Department of Agriculture shall be available for accomplishing such purposes by contract through the means provided in subsection (a) hereof.”

Approved July 28, 1954.

Public Law 546

CHAPTER 592

AN ACT

To provide for the conveyance of certain lands by the United States to the city of Muskogee, Oklahoma.

July 28, 1954  
[H. R. 8983]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is authorized and directed to convey by quitclaim deed to the city of Muskogee, Oklahoma, all the right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a tract of land containing approximately five and four-tenths acres, together with all buildings and improvements thereon, being a portion of the Veterans' Administration hospital reservation situate in Muskogee County, State of Oklahoma, likewise being a portion of certain lands conveyed to the United States by the city of Muskogee, Oklahoma, by warranty deed dated March 17, 1945, recorded in the office of the clerk of Muskogee County on June 23, 1945, in book 839, pages 432 to 434, the exact courses and distances of the perimeter of which shall be determined and approved by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs. The city of Muskogee shall pay the cost of surveys as may be required by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs in determining the required legal description.

Muskogee, Okla.  
Conveyance.

Survey cost.

SEC. 2. There shall be reserved to the United States all minerals, including oil and gas, in the lands authorized for conveyance by section 1, and the deed of conveyance shall contain such additional terms, conditions, reservations, and restrictions as may be determined by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to be necessary to protect the interests of the United States.

Mineral reservation, etc.

SEC. 3. The deed of conveyance shall provide that the tract of land authorized to be conveyed by section 1 of this Act shall be used by the city of Muskogee, Oklahoma, for such purposes as will not, in the judgment of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs or his designate, interfere with the care and treatment of patients in the Veterans' Administration Hospital, Muskogee, Oklahoma, and that if such provision is violated, title to the tract shall revert to the United States.

Use.

Approved July 28, 1954.

Public Law 547

CHAPTER 593

AN ACT

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct facilities to provide water for irrigation, municipal, domestic, military, and other uses from the Santa Margarita River, California, and for other purposes.

July 28, 1954  
[H. R. 5731]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Secretary of the Interior, acting pursuant to the Federal reclamation laws (Act of June 17, 1902, 32 Stat. 388), and Acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto, as far as those laws are not inconsistent with the

De Luz Dam,  
Calif.  
Construction,  
etc.  
43 USC 371 note.

provisions of this Act, is authorized to construct, operate, and maintain such dam and other facilities as may be required to make available for irrigation, municipal, domestic, military, and other uses the yield of the reservoir created by De Luz Dam to be located immediately below the confluence of De Luz Creek with Santa Margarita River on Camp Joseph H. Pendleton, San Diego County, California, for the Fallbrook Public Utility District and such other users as herein provided. The authority of the Secretary to construct said facilities is contingent upon a determination by him that—

Fallbrook Public Utility District repayment contract.  
53 Stat. 1193.  
43 USC 485h.

(a) the Fallbrook Public Utility District shall have entered into a contract under subsection (d), section 9, of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 undertaking to repay to the United States of America appropriate portions, as determined by the Secretary, of the actual costs of constructing, operating, and maintaining such dam and other facilities, together with interest as hereinafter provided; and under no circumstances shall the Department of the Navy be subject to any charges or costs except on the basis of its proportional use, if any, of such dam and other facilities, as determined pursuant to section 2 (b) of this Act;

California permits.

(b) the officer or agency of the State of California authorized by law to grant permits for the appropriation of water shall have granted such permits to the United States of America and shall have granted permits to the Fallbrook Public Utility District for rights to the use of water for storage and diversion as provided in this Act; including, as to the Fallbrook Public Utility District, approval of all requisite changes in points of diversion and storage, and purposes and places of use;

Claim against U. S.

(c) the Fallbrook Public Utility District shall have agreed that it will not assert against the United States of America any prior appropriative right it may have to water in excess of that quantity deliverable to it under the provisions of this Act, and will share in the use of the waters impounded by the De Luz Dam on the basis of equal priority and in accordance with the ratio prescribed in section 3 (a) of this Act; this agreement and waiver and the changes in points of diversion and storage, required by the preceding paragraph, shall become effective and binding only when the dam and other facilities herein provided for shall have been completed and put into operation: *Provided, however,* That the enactment of this legislation does not constitute a recognition of, or an admission that, the Fallbrook Public Utility District has any rights to the use of water in the Santa Margarita River, which rights, if any, exist only by virtue of the laws of the State of California; and

Equal priority in use of waters.

Feasibility.

(d) the De Luz Dam and other facilities herein authorized have economic and engineering feasibility.

Water rights.

SEC. 2. (a) In the interest of comity between the United States of America and the State of California and consistent with the historic policy of the United States of America of Federal noninterference with State water law, the Secretary of the Navy shall promptly comply with the procedures for the acquisition of appropriative water rights required under the laws of the State of California as soon as he is satisfied, with the advice of the Attorney General of the United States, that such action will not adversely affect the rights of the United States of America under the laws of the State of California.

Navy Department charges.

(b) The Department of the Navy will not be subject to any charges or costs in connection with the De Luz Dam or its facilities; except upon completion and then shall be charged in reasonable proportion to its use of the facilities under regulations agreed upon by the Secretary of the Navy and Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 3. (a) The operation of the dam and other facilities herein provided shall be by the Secretary of the Interior, under regulations satisfactory to the Secretary of the Navy with respect to the Navy's share of the impounded water and national security. In that operation, 60 per centum of the water impounded by De Luz Dam is hereby allotted to the Secretary of the Navy; 40 per centum of the water impounded by De Luz Dam is hereby allotted to the Fallbrook Public Utility District. The Department of the Navy and the Fallbrook Public Utility District will participate in the water impounded by De Luz Dam on the basis of equal priority and in accordance with the ratio prescribed in the preceding sentence: *Provided, however*, That at any time the Secretary of the Navy certifies that he does not have immediate need for any portion of the aforesaid 60 per centum of the water, the official agreed upon to administer the dam and facilities is empowered to enter into temporary contracts for the delivery of water subject, however, to the first right of the Secretary of the Navy to demand that water without charge and without obligation on the part of the United States of America upon thirty days' notice as set forth in any such contract with the approval of the Secretary of the Navy: *Provided, further*, That all moneys paid in to the United States of America under any such contract shall be covered into the general fund of the Treasury, and shall not be applied against the indebtedness of the Fallbrook Public Utility District to the United States of America. In making any such temporary contracts for water not immediately needed by the Navy, the first right thereto, if otherwise consistent with the laws of the State of California, shall be given the Fallbrook Public Utility District.

Dam operation,  
etc.

Water allotment.

Temporary con-  
tracts.

(b) The general repayment obligation of the Fallbrook Public Utility District (which shall include interest on the unamortized balance of construction costs of the project allocated to municipal and domestic waters at a rate equal to the average rate, which rate shall be certified by the Secretary of the Treasury, on the long-term loans of the United States outstanding on the date of this Act) to be undertaken pursuant to section 1 of this Act shall be spread in annual installments, which need not be equal, over a period of not more than fifty-six years, exclusive of a development period, or as near thereto as is consistent with the operation of a formula, mutually agreeable to the parties, under which the payments are varied in the light of factors pertinent to the irrigators' ability to pay. The development period shall begin in the year in which water for use by the district is first available, as announced by the Secretary, and shall end in the year in which the conservation storage space in De Luz Reservoir first fills but shall, in no event, exceed seventeen years. During the development period water shall be delivered to the district under annual water rental notices at rates fixed by the Secretary and payable in advance, and any moneys collected in excess of operation and maintenance costs shall be credited to repayment of the capital costs chargeable to the district and the repayment period fixed herein shall be reduced proportionately. The Secretary may transfer to the district the care, operation, and maintenance of the facilities constructed by him under conditions satisfactory to him and to the district and, with respect to such of the facilities as are located within the boundaries of Camp Pendleton, satisfactory also to the Secretary of the Navy.

Repayment obli-  
gation.

(c) For the purposes of this Act the basis, measure, and limit of all rights of the United States of America pertaining to the use of water shall be the laws of the State of California: *Provided*, That nothing in this Act shall be construed as a grant or a relinquishment by the United States of America of any of its rights to the use of water which it acquired according to the laws of the State of California

U. S. rights under  
California law.

either as a result of its acquisition of the lands comprising Camp Joseph H. Pendleton and adjoining naval installations, and the rights to the use of water as a part of said acquisition, or through actual use or prescription or both since the date of that acquisition, if any, or to create any legal obligation to store any water in De Luz Reservoir, to the use of which it has such rights, or to require the division under this Act of water to which it has such rights.

(d) Unless otherwise agreed by the Secretary of the Navy, De Luz Dam as herein provided shall at all times be operated in a manner which will permit the free passage of all of the water to the use of which the United States of America is entitled according to the laws of the State of California either as a result of its acquisition of the lands comprising Camp Joseph H. Pendleton and adjoining naval installations, and the rights to the use of water as a part of said acquisitions, or through actual use or prescription or both since the date of that acquisition, if any, and will not be administered or operated in any way which will impair or deplete the quantities of water to the use of which the United States of America would be entitled under the laws of the State of California had that structure not been built.

Water delivery regulations.

SEC. 4. After the construction of the De Luz Dam, the official operating the reservoir shall deliver water to the Fallbrook Public Utility District, pursuant to regulations issued by the Secretary of the Interior, as follows:

(1) One thousand eight hundred acre-feet in any year until the reservoir attains an active content of sixty-three thousand acre-feet;

(2) Not in excess of four thousand eight hundred acre-feet in any year after the reservoir attains an active content of sixty-three thousand acre-feet and until said reservoir attains an active content of ninety-eight thousand acre-feet; and

(3) Not in excess of eight thousand acre-feet in any year after the reservoir attains an active content of ninety-eight thousand acre-feet and until the conservation storage space of the reservoir has been filled.

Flood control.

33 USC 709.

SEC. 5. The Secretary of the Army through the Chief of Engineers, acting in accordance with section 7 of the Flood Control Act of 1944 (58 Stat. 887) is authorized to utilize for purposes of flood control such portion of the capacity of De Luz Reservoir as may be available therefor.

Santa Margarita River project. Appropriation.

SEC. 6. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, \$22,636,000, the current estimated construction cost of the Santa Margarita River project, plus or minus such amounts as may be indicated by the engineering cost indices for this type of construction, and, in addition thereto, such sums as may be required to operate and maintain the said project.

Reports to Congress.

SEC. 7. From time to time the Attorney General, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of the Navy shall report to the Congress concerning the conditions specified in section 1 of this Act, and the first report thereon shall be submitted to the Congress no later than one year from the date of enactment of this Act.

Approved July 28, 1954.

Public Law 548

CHAPTER 613

AN ACT

To authorize the construction of naval vessels, and for other purposes.

July 29, 1954  
[H. R. 8571]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the*