

THE CALIFORNIA "LIMITATION ACT"

(Act of March 4, 1929; Ch. 16, 48th Session; Statutes and Amendments to the Codes, 1929, pp. 38-39)

Preface

AN ACT To limit the use by California of the waters of the Colorado river in compliance with the act of congress known as the "Boulder canyon project act," approved December 21, 1928, in the event the Colorado river compact is not approved by all of the states signatory thereto

(Approved by the Governor March 4, 1929; in effect August 14, 1929)

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

Section 1.

In the event the Colorado river compact signed at Santa Fe, New Mexico November 24, 1922, and approved by and set out at length in that certain act entitled "An act to ratify and approve the Colorado river compact, signed at Santa Fe, New Mexico, November 24, 1922, to repeal conflicting acts and resolutions and directing that notice be given by the governor of such ratification and approval," approved January 10, 1929 (statutes 1929, chapter 1), is not approved within six months from the date of the passage of that certain act of the congress of the United States known as the "Boulder canyon project act," approved December 21, 1928, by the legislatures of each of the seven states signatory thereto, as provided by article eleven of the said Colorado river compact, then when six of said states, including California, shall have ratified and approved said compact, and shall have consented to waive the provisions of the first paragraph of article eleven of said compact which makes the same binding and obligatory when approved by each of the states signatory thereto, and shall have approved said compact without conditions save that of such six states approval and the President by public proclamation shall have so declared, as provided by the said "Boulder canyon project act," the State of California as of the date of such proclamation agrees irrevocably and unconditionally with the United States and for the benefit of the states of Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming as an express covenant and in consideration of the passage of the said "Boulder canyon project act" that the aggregate annual consumptive use (diversions less returns to the river) of water of and from the Colorado river for use in the State of California including all uses under contracts made under the provisions of said "Boulder canyon project act," and all water necessary for the supply of any rights which may now exist, shall not exceed four million four hundred thousand acre-feet of the waters apportioned to the lower basin states by paragraph "a" of article three of the said Colorado river compact, plus not more than one-half of any excess or surplus waters unapportioned by said compact, such uses always to be subject to the terms of said compact.

Section 2.

By this act the State of California intends to comply with the conditions respecting limitation on the use of water as specified in subdivision 2 of section 4 (a) of the said "Boulder canyon project act" and this act shall be so construed.

[Source: Updating the Hoover Dam Documents 1978, Appendix I, pgs. I-12]