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EXECUTIVE ENGINEER



Albuquerque
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OMI file

February 1, 1991

The Honorable Pat D'Arco
Mayor of Rio Rancho
P. O. Box 1555
Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87174

Re: 7-Bar Channel

Dear Mayor D'Arco:

In 1983, AMAFCA constructed the 7-Bar Channel (with participation from 7-Bar Land and Cattle Company and AMREP). This channel drains a substantial area of Rio Rancho southward to the Blacks Diversion Channel, and ultimately to the Rio Grande.

As you know from our conversations, AMAFCA recently completed concrete lining of the Black Arroyo east of Golf Course Road, and we are planning to build a dam on the Black Arroyo, just west of Golf Course Road. These facilities, like the 7-Bar Channel, will provide significant flood and sediment control benefits to Rio Rancho and Sandoval County.

In reviewing the hydrology for these projects, we have determined that, in order to make the system work properly, the maximum flow in the 7-Bar Channel must be restricted. Accordingly, I am requesting that measures be taken to ensure that the peak flow entering the 7-Bar Channel be restricted to 1000 cfs.

This can be done in a number of ways, among which could be detention along Highway 528 in Rio Rancho. Another possibility, which I would ask that you seriously consider, is to construct a detention pond just north of the County line and west of Highway 528. Such a pond could attenuate flows, settle out sediment, and reduce the turbulence and bank cutting which occurs when flows come under 528 from the channel which drains the Intel property.

Your cooperation in this matter would be appreciated. We would like to be consulted as plans are developed; we may have some advice which would be helpful.

Sincerely,

Larry A. Blair,
Executive Engineer

cc: Southern Sandoval County Arroyo Flood Control Authority
Alan Wylie, Sandoval County Flood Commissioner
Corrales Watershed Board
USDA Soil Conservation Service
AMREP