

Progress Threatens Four Corners, Indians, Ecologists Ask For Help

Washington, D. C.—A coalition of environmental organizations and American Indians have asked for a moratorium on all Federal action related to electric power developments they fear will devastate the heart of the scenic southwestern United States.

The Native American Rights Fund, Environmental Defense Fund and National Wildlife Federation told Interior Secretary Rogers Morton a mammoth system of coal-fired plants, strip mines, high voltage transmission lines and related developments seriously threaten the fabled Four Corners area of Colorado, Utah, New Mexico and Arizona.

By 1985, an association of about 20 southwestern utilities plans to generate more than 36 million kilowatts of electricity in the Four Corners area to serve Phoenix, Tucson, Las Vegas, San Diego and Los Angeles.

The first plant of the system has been operating since 1964 at a site on the Navajo Indian Reservation

near Mesa Verde National Park. It emits more particulate matter daily than New York City and Los Angeles combined. Four more plants are under construction and another in final planning stages.

Smoke from the first plant has covered up to 10,000 square miles and was the only man-made object visible in a 1966 photograph taken from Gemini 12 at an altitude of 170 miles.

When all six plants are in operation they will daily emit an estimated 200 tons of fly ash, 1,365 tons of sulphur oxides, and 1,000 tons of nitrogen oxides. The groups contend these emissions will blanket the Four Corners area with smog potentially hazardous to human health and the fragile desert ecology.

They contend too that the plants' tremendous demands for cooling water from the already saline surface waters of the Colorado River Basin could have serious impact on resident Indians, damage agriculture in the fertile Imperial Valley

and aggravate existing water squabbles between the U. S. and Mexico.

According to NARF, more than half of all American Indians living on reservations will be subjected to the air pollution and strip mining operations threaten to despoil areas of unique religious significance to the Navajo and Hopi. More than 16 million Americans visited the six National Parks, three National Recreation Areas and twenty-eight National Monuments subject to air pollution from the power plants. Tourism ranks second or third in each of the four state economies.

Involved Federal agencies have filed estimates of potential environmental impact for individual pieces of the total project. However analysts from the three organizations claim all are woefully inadequate and completely ignore the National Environmental Policy Act mandate for a report on the cumulative environmental impact of the whole system.

A spokesman for the groups said the requested moratorium would give the Federal government time to do the required environmental studies which will be vital to the utilities if they are to fulfill promises to minimize the environmental impact of the Four Corners development.

The powerful U. S. Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee called the Four Corners situation "a classic example of the clash of divergent needs" and scheduled hearings for May 24, 25, 26 in Albuquerque and Farmington, New Mexico and Salt Lake City.

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Salemites Discover Real Talent In Performance

By Kris Danbury

Salemites were extremely impressed after discovering the untapped talents of Pam Langston at the April Arts Talent Show on April 19. Dressed in a long, striped Dashiki, Pam played the guitar as she sang "I Shall Be Released," by Joni Mitchell. Her natural vibrato and wide range were successfully displayed in her next number "Woodstock" by Bob Dylan, for which she accompanied herself on the piano. The sensitive technique and relaxed atmosphere of her performance resulted in the only encore of

the show. For this final number she introduced one of her own compositions, "William's Song."

Pam, a double major in Sociology and Psychology, from Berkely Heights, New Jersey, has been mastering the guitar for the last three years. She enjoys composing music and lyrics and arranges many of her favorite compositions by Judy Collins; Crosby, Stills, Nash, and Young; and Gordon Lightfoot to name a few. As of now, Pam has no immediate plans for a professional career in music. We hope, however, that Salem will be hearing more of her music in the future.



"Show me a country that doesn't poison its resources and I'll show you a HAVE-NOT NATION! The AMERICAN answer to pollution is not to RUN AWAY from it, but to INVEST in it!"

Courtesy Publishers-Hall Syndicate

Gossip, Amazing Facts and Other Trivia

Sandy Watkins has finally found her lover — Life Magazine does a great imitation of I.R.S. memories.

Due to an old Salem tradition, unmarried males are still not hired by the library (to protect us girls.)

Did you know that in April, 1923 the first sound-on-film talking pictures (vaudeville shorts) were shown by Lee de Forest at the Rivoli Theater in New York City?

Also, today is Arbor Day in Utah. And May 1 is Loyalty Day (by Act of Congress).

Mary Pat Lennon and Eleanie Harrell can tell you how to spend an exciting afternoon with a bunch of rats and all of the rewards they bring.

Em Lackey seemed to have a little trouble recently trying to get home. After spending a great deal of time attaching a horse trailer to her car she had a blow-out in Greensboro.

Dr. Pall Bearer, we are sorry to hear that the Gold Leach Supper Club burned.

Sandy, how does Rod's moustache feel?

Kathy Wilshire has taken off for another exciting week at Princeton. Go get 'em Tiger!

In 1934, Horton Smith won the first Masters Golf Tournament in

Augusta, Ga. (Home of Misses Alden Hanson and Betsy Wallace.) Ross Strudwick has gotten married.

And speaking of Women's Lib, in Toronto, Canada, a judge granted a woman a divorce, but then ordered her to pay \$335 a month alimony to her husband, a 62-year-old wel-

fare recipient, believed to be the first Canadian man to win such an award.

And a Federal judge in Miami, Fla., held that an airline was practicing discrimination on the basis of sex by not hiring him.

Happy Birthday, Beth Bencini. Beautiful Beth will be 21 tomorrow.



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