

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

MINIDOKA POWERPLANT REPLACEMENT PROJECT

MINIDOKA PROJECT

IDAHO-WYOMING

MARCH 1991

PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

BOISE, IDAHO

MICROFILMED
DEC 07 1995

The normal operation of the spillway consists of setting the flashboards in the spring to raise reservoir water levels about 5 feet and flashboard removal in the fall to achieve a lower winter reservoir level.

Water is diverted at the dam into two canal systems, one on each side of the river. The canal system on the north side of the river serves the Gravity Division (Minidoka Irrigation District) of the Minidoka Project, which consists of 72,000 irrigable acres of land adjacent to the towns of Rupert, Heyburn, and Paul. The canal system on the south side serves 48,000 acres near the towns of Burley and Declo and constitutes the South Side Pumping Division (Burley Irrigation District).

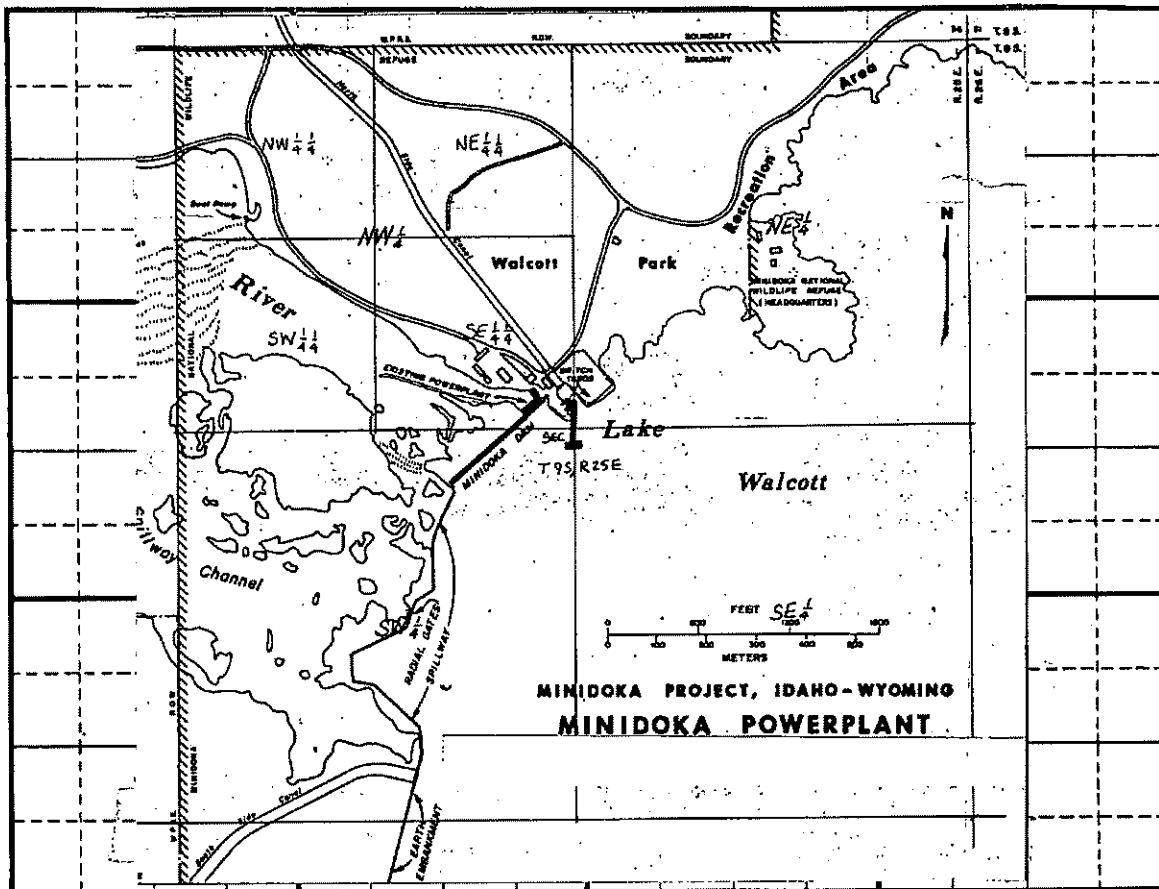
The powerplant consists of seven generating units with a total rated capacity of 13.4 megawatts (MW) and an overload capacity of 16.0 MW. Average annual generation is about 95,000,000 kilowatthours (kWh). During maximum generation, the plant will pass 5,035 cfs. Power generated at the plant is a part of the Federal Columbia River Power System and is marketed by the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA).

The powerplant was built in 1908-1909 with units 1-5 installed from 1909-1911. Online operation of the generating units to furnish power and pump irrigation water began in 1909, the first Federal hydroelectric project in the Pacific Northwest to do so. Unit 6 was installed in 1926 and unit 7 in 1942. Recognition of the historic nature of these developments was given on October 29, 1974, when the powerplant and dam were placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Minidoka Dam

DEC 07 1995

(B) Remarks Item 5B See drawings 17-D-1139, 1140, attached.



Scale: 2 inches equal 1 mile. 5.5 inches = 1 mile

Map should show the location of the point of diversion and the place of use of the water by 40-acre subdivisions, section, township and range of the public land survey system.

State of Idaho)

County of Ada) ss.

Be it known that the undersigned, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he, she, they subscribed the foregoing claim to a water right, together with all attached information, and that the matters and facts therein are true to the best of the affiant's knowledge.

Sworn to before me this 25th day of March

Acting Regional Director

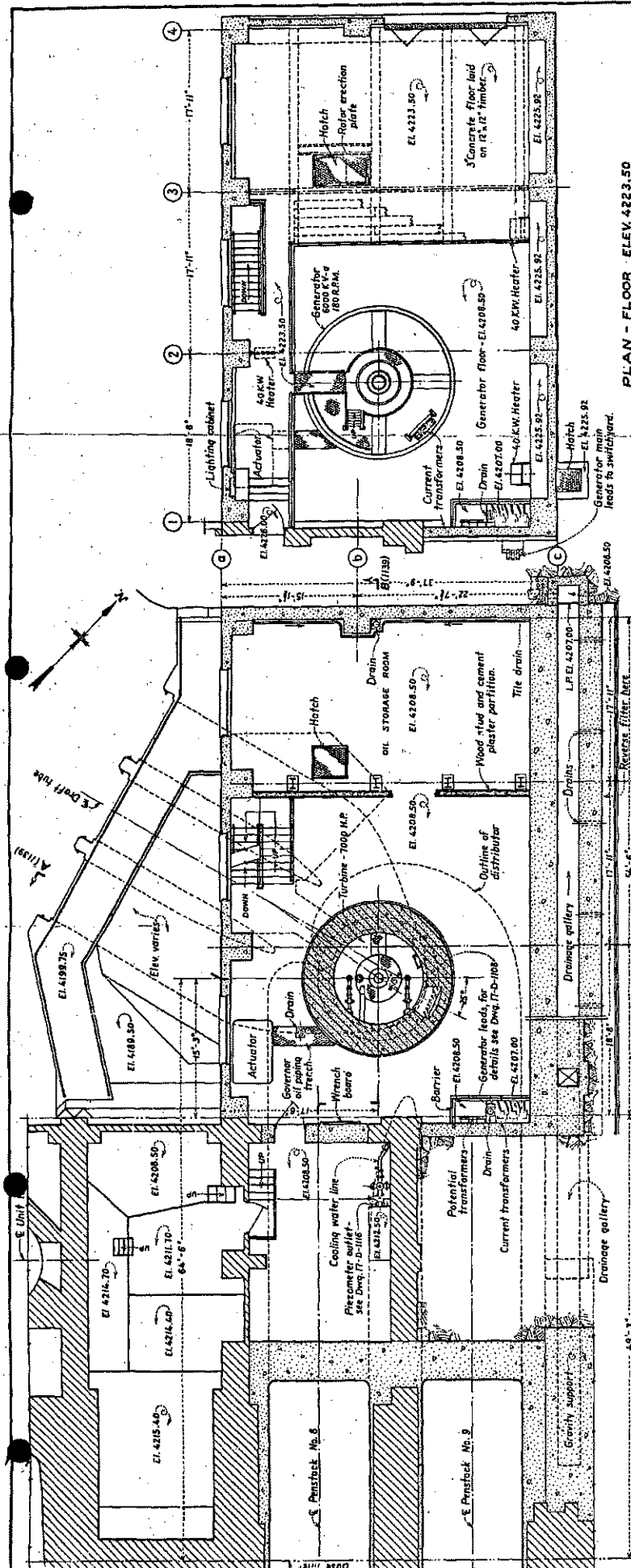
Notary Public

Residing at Boise

My commission expires Life

FOR DEPARTMENT USE ONLY

Received by marya Date 3-27-80 Exception filed by: _____ Forwarded to _____ Date _____
Prelim. check by CLB ADM Date 3/1/80 4/7/80
\$20.00 fee received by CLB Date 3/1/80 #16440
Published in minidoka county news
Dates 4/24 + 5/1/80



PLAN - FLOOR ELEV. 4223.50

REFERENCE DRAWING
See Dwg. IT-D-1139 for sections.

EXPLANATION

[Pattern]	Existing concrete
[Pattern]	New concrete - First stage
[Pattern]	New concrete - Second stage

SCALE 1" = 10' TEXT

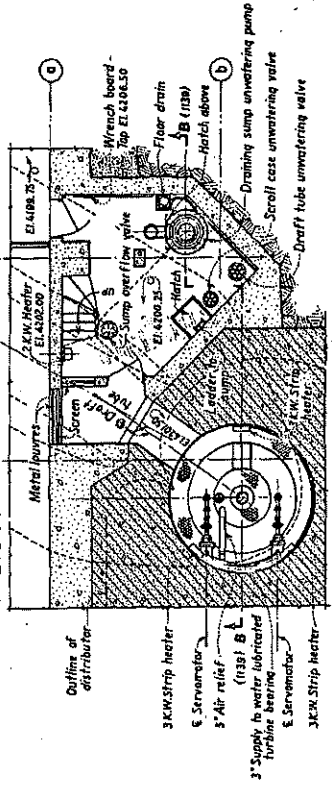
THIS DRAWING SUPERSEDES DWG. IT-D-1066

MINDOKA POWER PLANT
GENERAL ARRANGEMENT
FLOOR PLANS

DESIGNED BY	UNIT No. 7
DRAWN BY	MINIDOKA PROJECT - IDAHO
CHECKED BY	BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
APPROVED BY	UNIT No. 7
DATE	17-D-1140

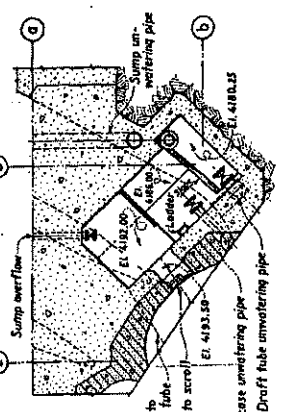
SAFETY

PLAN - FLOOR ELEV. 4208.50



PLAN - FLOOR ELEV. 4200.25

PLAN - FLOOR ELEV. 4197.00



PLAN - FLOOR ELEV. 4197.00

MINIDOKA POWERPLANT owned by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and located 11 miles northeast of Rupert in the SE 1/4, NW 1/4, Sec 1, T. 9 S., R. 25 E., B.M.

Water Right No.	Water Right and Date or Decree Name	Decree Date, File No., & Page No. in Decree	Priority Date	Flow in cfs	Subordination Permit License/Decree
01-00217	Twin Falls Canal Co. Decree	6-20-1913, 01-C, p. 8	6-15-1909	2,500	No
01-00218	Twin Falls Canal Co. Decree	6-20-1913, 01-C, p. 8	7-01-1912	200	No
01-04024	Claimed on 3-27-1980		6-16-1927 ¹	825	Probably ^{2,3}
01-04025	Claimed on 3-27-1980		5-07-1942 ¹	1,700	Probably ^{2,3}
01-07056	Permitted on 1-07-1985 Beneficial use due 12-01-2000		8-07-1980	5,875	Yes
Subtotal of non-subordinated water rights (probable amount)				2,700 cfs ^{3,4} 11,100 cfs	(5,225 cfs maximum)
Total					

¹ An adjudicated claim priority date likely will be the verified date the diversion started, not the date the new project construction was decided upon or even started. The dates will be verified in the examination for the adjudication. These claims were refiled on August 11, 1989 for the Snake River Basin Adjudication.

² As mentioned in regard to the American Falls Power Plant, the state established by a ratified constitutional amendment of Article XV, Section 3, on November 6, 1928, the authority to "regulate and limit the use" of water for power purposes. Regardless of the issue spurring the constitutional amendment, the general pattern of subordinating power water rights to subsequent upstream diversions for other than power purposes did not start until 1952. See permit for C.J. Strike (02-02080). The Bureau of Reclamation, however, might forgo claiming non-subordination privileges in its water right claim particularly if the diversion under the claim did not start until after November 6, 1928.

³ It is probable, the Snake River Basin Adjudication Court would rule that the water right owner has given up what could have been "grandfather" rights to a non-subordinated water right that likely would have been approved if they had used the licensing process.

⁴ Idaho Code 42-203B(5) provides that the State can enter into agreements with holders of water rights for power purposes to define that portion of their water rights that are to be non-subordinated to upstream depletions. Such an agreement with Idaho Power Co. in 1984 for the projects below Milner Dam provided for much lower non-subordinated rights than the total of the original water rights. A similar agreement for the American Falls project and the Minidoka Project with Idaho Power Co. and the Bureau of Reclamation would provide a legal basis for the past allowance of upstream diversions including ground water diversions.

11/1/89