

30/16/9940.

September 23, 1927.

Re--Chilco Ranch.

Dear Mr. Ellis,-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo and also that of the 13th instant with regard to the above quoted subject and your suggestion that it would be advisable to have an interview with Mr. Griffin at an early date.

In reply I beg to say that I hope in a short time to be able to go to Vancouver for the purpose of endeavouring to come to a final settlement with Mr. Spencer's representative in regard to this troublesome question. I agree with you that the best thing to do would be to have an interview and that a date should be set for the same to take place shortly after the beginning of October, as I do not see that I can get away before that date.

I feel that any discussion we may have should be based on the agreement of 1924 between my Department and Mr. Spencer and consideration given to each parties respective rights to water and the works. It would be advisable that a day before this meeting, or possibly in the morning of the same day, a preliminary discussion should be held between yourself, Mr. Webb and myself in order that we may go into the merits of Mr. Spencer's claims and give consideration to the joint report of Engineers Warren and Murray in order that a determination may be arrived at as to how far each party to the agreement should be committed to carrying out the proposed suggestions in the report. We then would be in a position to inform Mr. Griffin just how far this Department is prepared to go and no further.

With regard to some small accounts which Mr. Spencer submitted and so far have not been paid by this Department, I may say that they were mostly in connection with the work on the Fletcher Lake dam in which this Department had no interest whatever. Mr. Spencer had his own engineer, Mr. Murray, do considerable work on it last year, and apparently it has been found to be faulty necessitating some repairs, and Mr. Spencer expects my Department to pay its share of the cost of this. On the other hand, an account was submitted to Mr. Spencer some time ago by myself asking him to pay one-half the cost of getting up the joint report, but he has not so far done this.

I feel that we will not get very far in our arguments if Mr. Spencer is present at the meeting which we have with Mr. Griffin, as my experience has led me to believe that he would not agree permanently to anything. I,

J. H. Ellis, Esq.,
C/o. Ellis & Brown,
403-406 Rogers Building,
Vancouver, B.C.

SUBPOSE