

(b) Pend Oreille Diversion to California

In a 1951 reconnaissance report of the Bureau of Reclamation, a scheme was outlined for a possible diversion of surplus water from the Pend Oreille to supply the needs of Northern California. Diversions from the Albeni Falls Reservoir on the Pend Oreille River "... could be carried by gravity flow to the Klamath River above the Ah Pah Reservoir. The total length of the aqueduct to the Klamath River^{*} would be about 1,020 miles, of which about 290 miles would be tunnel and 40 miles in siphon. No estimates of cost were made for this plan because the necessary length of aqueduct causes it to appear unattractive, and also because tentative analysis of ultimate local water requirements indicate a lack of any substantial exportable surplus."

It might be well to point out that the Pend Oreille River downstream from Albeni Falls is now almost totally developed for hydro-electric power generation. A high degree of river regulation is also available from upstream storage; therefore, any diversions from the Pend Oreille would represent a material loss of power at downstream plants on both the Pend Oreille River and the main stem of the Columbia River. For energy alone at 3 mills per kwh, this loss would amount to \$4 per year for every acre-foot of water diverted.

(c) Kootenai River Diversion to the States of Washington, Oregon and California

It would be in the realm of physical possibility to divert flow from the Kootenai River into the Albeni Falls reservoir on the Pend Oreille for further diversions to the States of Washington, Oregon and California. The

* The Klamath River rises on the Oregon-California border. Diverted water would have to be transported a further 300 miles to the San Francisco area and 600 miles to the Los Angeles area. The total length from Albeni Falls to Los Angeles would be approximately 1,600 miles.