

Michael Kline: But I would suggest getting some more batteries. At least some batteries. This is a test. Hey, this is a test. There it is coming up. This is a test one, two, three. We are testing out this equipment for the annual Dam Fighters conference. The annual Dam Fighters conference. The annual Dam Fighters conference. Well, I wound up asking. [laughter] Let us see. Monitor level. This is Easter Monday, April 8th, 1985. I am at the home of Bill and Edith Coltrane. I have just met Mrs. Coltrane and I am about to interview her. I met her son (Butch?). He has gone back outside because he is doing some work on their farm here. Now let me play this back and see what it sounds like.

Edith Coltrane: Down there today. That's why he isn't here.

MK: Oh, so he works as a – when it is working.

EC: Well, he works part-time in the shipping department just in the afternoon. Then whenever the mill closes, he'll watch for them.

MK: I see. I was holding the microphone much closer to myself than I was to you.

EC: That's okay if you didn't get that. [laughter]

MK: [laughter] Well it is all right. But I want to practice with this (equipment?).

EC: Yes, right.

MK: So, where are we? Are we in Sophia? Is that what it is called right here?

EC: Oh, we're in New Market Township.

MK: New Market.

EC: New Market Township.

MK: In Randolph County.

EC: Yes, in Randolph County.

MK: Well, I live in Randolph County, West Virginia now.

EC: Is that right?

MK: Yes.

EC: That's sort of a coincidence, isn't it?

MK: Yes, it is. You were telling me that you are not close enough to the river to be taken by an actual project. But your land would be taken for a recreation.

EC: That is correct.

MK: How far is it from the river here?

EC: Oh, you mean 8 Stones Throw?

MK: Sure, directly. Just your land.

EC: Less than a mile. Less than a mile, I would think.

MK: From right in this house or from the border of your property?

EC: Well, you see, we're on the edge. We're on the front side of our property. All back behind us here, you'll see outside is where the boundary line is and all on the road over here. Our farm is the outside boundary for the recreation. They tell us that it won't take our house. Now, this is the new concept that they've put out. But you don't believe anything the Corps tells you.

MK: You have been listening to the Corps telling you things for how many years?

EC: Oh, numbers [laughter] I can't...

MK: [laughter]

EC: Well, this thing was authorized in 1968, but wasn't too much concerned about it. Some people were, but we did not get involved in it too much. I became more involved in the seventies. This lady who had been fighting it was just doing nothing. So, when I found out that they were really pushing, then we began to get on the ball. We sent the two young fellas up to Washington to learn what they could. From there, we began to organize and we've been working ever since.

MK: Who did they send up?

EC: Kemp Davis and (Tim Swigget?).

MK: What year was that?

EC: I need the lady over here in my neighborhood to tell you the dates, because I don't keep up with those things. It was back in the seventies.

MK: Who was president then? Was it Ford in then or?

EC: Carter.

MK: Carter already?

EC: Carter. Wait a minute. I don't believe they've had any money in eight years. Carter didn't give them any. Reagan hasn't given any. So, that's eight years so it's about 1976, seventy-seven, somewhere along there, I guess it was.

MK: Speaking of Kemp Davis, by the way, I have tried to get his number just from information and it was not listed under Asheboro. Do you know?

EC: Oh, yes. I have his number. I can give you. Yes.

MK: Good. It is good to have somebody else to...

EC: Yes. If I had realized this was what you were about, I would have already been in touch with Kemp Davis. I did call Thelma Adams and told her that we might run over there if you wanted to take time to go out and see it.

MK: I could find that. Well, like you noticed, my family is not with me. So, I have got far more freedom that I thought I would have. [laughter]

EC: Well, I just thought maybe you were going down the road together you wouldn't be. But after these boys came back, we organized. I think we had about twenty-five or thirty there. We just kept pushing along. But then our best work was begun when Betty Bailey – do you know Betty Bailey?

MK: No. But I also got her name from Pete Carlson.

EC: When she came into the picture, as I had told her, they'd believe her more than they'd believed me. It was a little more encouraging to have somebody from the outside. So, Betty began to put us work with different organizations like the North Carolina Conservation Council, and then that's branched out with the Sierra Club. But of course, our membership for the Deep River Citizens Coalition, I'd say is around three hundred. They're not as active as we'd like for them to be. But they're pretty good to come around with finances or write letters and that kind of thing when we have a steering committee. We get things together, and if we think it's time to write letters, we have a telephone tree that we work. Sometimes we feel like giving up. But then as long as they don't get any money, why are we going to keep working?

MK: So, what have they done? Have they ever gotten money since it has been authorized?

EC: Oh, yes. They've had money to go and drill and excuse me, take samples. I don't know whether you're acquainted with any of their books or not. But I have one over there, I'll let you see it. But I have read and several of us have read after them. The statistics they give us, they're way off and that kind of thing. They try to make it appear that no one has been against the dam and that kind of thing. The petitions that were sent in did no good. I think Carter really helped us out because he stopped all the dams, did he not, in his first year of administration.

MK: Yes. He said those water projects were pork barrel, and they need to take another look at it.

EC: It is pork barrel. Right. So, of course now, last year it just almost went through. I believe you said that's when yours got started, was last year. Well, anyway, they threw the Randleman dam at which we were real glad. But we worked so hard this year to try to keep it even off the floor. But now, whether we are going to succeed or not, we don't know because Reagan's administration, it's in their budget.

MK: The dam is in their budget, yes.

EC: Yes.

MK: Even though they want to bust all these deficits.

EC: But what the Corps wants is just enough money to buy a little land, and then they think they've got it made. See? I think the statute of limitation has run out in about eight years. If it can be proven that this is not a good project. I think that's why they're all working so hard. We have the Triad Council of Governments, and we have the Greensboro fathers that are just pushing desperately for it. When they found out that we were sending two young men to Washington, and Cobey was going to report before the finance committee, they got on the ball. Cobey got them an appointment also. Which if it had been us, we wouldn't have been able to get one. But can you imagine people of their caliber supposed to be not knowing that they could get an appointment?

MK: [laughter]

EC: Can you imagine that?

MK: No.

EC: No, I can't.

MK: So, they have not had money to take any land yet. No acquisition?

EC: No, they had not had any – this is what the \$2.0 million that they have in the budget now is supposed to be for. But what is \$2 million when you're talking about taking twelve thousand acres of land?

MK: Is that what they say the project area is going to be now?

EC: That was what they've got in their book. They have told us since then that they have cut the acreage some. That's why they tell us they won't take our house. But they will be. We have a little stream running down here in our pasture. They say that it might run on that some. I said, "Yes, and then we're going to get your mosquitoes."

MK: [laughter]

EC: He said, "We'll buy that." I said, "No, you won't. You'll take it." Oh, I've just been real angry with them. I guess that's the wrong thing, but it irritates you.

MK: Oh, yes.

EC: The boys told us when they went up to Washington this time, this fella from the Triad Council of Governments, [laughter] said they had to sit behind them. He said, "I've never wanted to kill anybody so bad in my life." His mother said, "Remember, your Quaker bringing up." [laughter]

MK: [laughter]

EC: But that fella gets so mad to see us, and he makes us mad to see him. He is so bent on it. I told him after a meeting down here in Asheboro, one day, I said, "Brother, I hope that you live to see the day that people antagonize you as much as you have us."

MK: [laughter]

EC: He just dropped his head.

MK: Why did the local council of governments want it so bad?

EC: They want the land for recreation. They want business brought to Greensboro. They think they have to have the water supply. The Corps plainly states in their book that this project is not to bring in industry.

MK: What does the Corps think those projects are for?

EC: Well, you see, the Corps just wants to build a dam like they have everywhere else.

MK: [laughter]

EC: That's what the Corps wants, it's just a dam. It doesn't bother them. Well, in fact, they said if they didn't build this, they'd build one somewhere. So, that's the attitude. Greensboro says they need the water. But according to the Corps statements, they have overstated the need for water and the population growth tremendously. This is some of the things that we've put out in some of our material. This is what Hoffman did. He went through this book and made up another report. Then Pete Carlson took that and made another report. As I say, if we had not have had the backing of the Sierra Club and the Conservation Council, we would still be lost. We wouldn't have anything to fight on, because they don't care anything about our land. They can get the land. But since they have brought up the subject of the bad water, well that's making another story. The state made a study. It took them two years, and they finally made the study and we knew that they were not finding good water. But the Governor Hunt wouldn't let them put it out until after the election. We had a new governor and a new outfit, and we got the press after them, and we got it. Then they want to say, "Well, it's outdated. It was taken for High Point beginning to do anything to their sewage disposal." So, they're making another study, the

different municipalities and the county. But not long ago, the county commissioners made the remark that they felt like their \$10,000 was not well spent, because it's going to be the same old story. But we have right over here an old, abandoned landfill, that the water will be over at the lakeside. Just above where the lake will be. The water will be over it. The Corps covered that up with dirt. If they hadn't had been sneaky, why would they have covered it up? They're dirty. Cobey made the remark to some of our people, of course he might not admit it today, that he felt like the Corps was an outdated thing and ought to be done away with. But the Greensboro people are putting so much pressure on him, and they may change his mind. But Cobey, the man who took Ike's place, is still standing firm that he is against it until a lot more study is done. Of course, as you say, the study has been going on for several years, the Corps study. But the state is beginning to wake up and take some. In fact, our county commissioners were for this project to begin with when it was authorized. Numbers of people out of Randleman and Asheboro went to Washington, and that was going to be the very thing. But since then, see, we have different commissioners who think differently. So, that helped us turn the tide there by our commissioners going against it.

MK: What brought them to oppose it finally?

EC: Well, they had an open meeting down there one day. A group of us went down and before we left, they had already gone against the Randleman Dam. We convinced them. We convinced them. I saw in the paper where they were going to have a meeting. So, I wrote a letter to *The Courier* and I said, "Well, they have given us an opportunity to speak about the Randleman Dam at 9:00 a.m., so and so morning." Richard Pugh, the chairman of the commission said, "Well, I see where Mrs. Coltrane says we've given you a chance to speak." Boy, we let them have it.  
[laughter]

MK: [laughter]

EC: So, before we left, they went on record as being opposed to the Randleman Dam. In fact, Richard Petty says, "Well, let's tell Reagan he can take that money and help balance the budget." So, that's how we started.

MK: Of the three hundred people in the Deep River – what is it called?

EC: Deep River Citizens Coalition.

MK: How many of them live in the actual take area?

EC: Well, most of them are affected one way or another as far as taking their land and that kind of thing. Yes. We may have a few interested out. We've had these meetings. But what I mean is we have not had response from anybody much other than people who are really involved. A couple of years ago, we had a petition just down in the little town of Randleman. The mayor, of course, was for this. She thinks it'd be wonderful to have a pond. Well, anyway, we got over six hundred, I can't tell you exactly, over six hundred signatures. Eighteen of them were for the Randleman Dam. The others were against it. But we took that to the mayor and to their council, and they just said, "Well, we'll take it. But that's the end of it." Randleman has a lot of widow

women in it, and people who are elderly. They can't afford this kind of thing. They cannot. Their water bill now is so high they can hardly pay it. But it doesn't matter to the government if they want to take your land. It's in their books. They talk about people having better homes to live in. They're living in substandard homes. I said, "Well, mine may be substandard, brother, but it's home to me. I'm going to –" they said we could call and find out if it was going to take our property. Of course, we've written back and forth several times. Some of it's insulting and some of it's okay. But anyway, when the man told me he was not going to take the house, and I said, "Well, how about my neighbors' over here?" "Well, we're not going to take their house, but it's going to do so and so." I said, "It doesn't matter to us what you tell us, we're going to fight you to the end." That's what we're doing. But whenever we thought they were going to get it last year, I told my husband, I said, "I've done all I can do. All I can do now is to put it in the hands of the Lord." That's what we're doing. I have a black friend over here. It's taken a whole black section called St. Peter. We have one worker over there. Of course, now they've been real good as a community to help us. I said, "This is the only thing that's going to help us, is a miracle." I believe that. Now, Pete Carlson might not believe in that so much, but I do. [laughter] I think he has opened the doors for us to do what we've been able to do. As long as the doors are open, we're going to work. But when they get the money, as far as my part is concerned, I'm going to say it's over. Maybe it's the Lord's will it's going to be built, you know? Maybe there could be something worse than the dam. I don't know what it is, but it could be. So, that's kind of the way that we've gone on it.

MK: Are there others who feel some religious dimension to this struggle or feel like...

EC: Well, I don't think that you would find anybody except the black people really. We have a few now. They were talking about having this gathering that we were trying to get together. Some of them won't have it on Sunday. They want to have a pig picking. One of the Quaker ladies that's done a lot of work, I saw her shake her head. The black girl was sitting right close to me, she says, "I won't be there." I said, "I won't either." Now. I don't mind having a meeting, say at the school or somewhere to have concerning. But I don't think that we're supposed to get out and have a hip hooray. So, anyway, sat there a little while and I said, "Well, I'll tell you folks, I'm going to tell you now, we're not going to have it on Sunday. The Lord doesn't want us to do that." So, that stopped it. Then when we went back to our next meeting, we said, "Well, maybe we don't need a pig picking. That's a lot of work and only a few are going to do it." So, we are trying to get together though, a public meeting. We'd be glad to have anybody that would like to come. If you think somebody from West Virginia can come, we'll be glad to contact them or however. We're going to try to have it when Pete Carlson can come. We really are. But it takes time to get a meeting together and get the publicity out for that kind of thing that you really want it to turn in.

MK: Yes. Right. Well, that is one thing they have had a lot of experience at up at the Stonewall Jackson Dam Project. They have an annual festival at which they sell farm produce and they have music. It's become a wonderful community event.

EC: But we've not been able to get that done here. But now we are trying to have a, I don't know where it's going to turn out to be a dinner or supper, and have music and have a program of some kind. We have debated our places and we first thought of the ball field. Well, what if it's

raining? What if it's pouring and rain, and that kind of thing? We must have something inside or where we can eat.

MK: Some available room. Yes.

EC: Yes.

MK: Well, even if I could bring down somebody from Lewis County, West Virginia, they would even give you advice about planning for the meeting.

EC: Well, that would be nice.

MK: I will bring him down for the meeting, but it would be also nice to plan ahead of time.

EC: Well, it will be.

MK: Because they have ten years' experience at that. Well good. I will get that information from you and give you my address and someone else's up there and put you in touch. I would love to play this tape. It is a little under an hour radio program. So, it is designed for it. But what we like to do best with it is bring it down to people who are involved in such a struggle and hope it is an inspiration.

EC: Well, now the other night we didn't know you existed, so why hasn't the Lord sent you our way? Maybe.

MK: Yes.

EC: We never know, do we?

MK: No. We never do.

EC: If we can just keep the money out the first time, that's the thing.

MK: When is that vote? Do you know?

EC: Well, they're working on it now. This is the point in the representatives and the men who have been there to talk before the budget committee. But it's the one that's...

MK: It is a subcommittee meeting.

EC: Yes. Right. Who is it? Hatfield? But that's not the one that went to before. I don't think they went before him. I can't remember the man's name. Well, I'll tell you, we maybe can catch Kemp at home today, or at his mother's at lunchtime. Now, I don't know whether he'll be there or not, but we'll try. You might be able to see Kemp today if you have the time and want to take the time.



MK: Sure. Yes. I would like that. Well, let me think of what other questions I would have for you right now though, as somebody living in the area. Now, I asked this question about a religious dimension because, in the first place, the way we got into this – actually, I have got all this on tape, so I might as well just put my pause button on. I will not need to waste my tape. Turn the tape on after we talked about it. [laughter]

EC: [laughter] Well, I do think the Lord gives you a trust of the land. My husband feels very much that way. He doesn't believe in destroying the trees. For firewood, he'll go out and get dead trees and that kind of thing, you know? He believes in one generation leaving land for the next generation. When you cover it up with water, it's gone. As I say, though, the Lord can dry that water stores up, you know? I wish my husband was here. He'd run off with you for a while.

MK: [laughter]

EC: But he was born and reared here on this farm. After he grew up, he did go to High Point to work, and then we were married and he was gone a while. But we moved back here when his father died. We've been here ever since. Of course, all of our children grew up here. But now the black community over here, who is going to be taken, it'll just wipe their whole community out. That's been over there since slavery. They're really going to be harder put than a lot of the white people, because where are they going? Where are they going to, to rehabilitate? [laughter]

MK: [laughter] Yes. In that kind of environment that's country, but also a community.

EC: Right. They came down and made a report in the Greensboro paper and they didn't like at all what they said about them. It just snubbed them a little bit. Now, I'll tell you, they were up in arms about that. Because they are proud of their community. Well, even if we were left here and they built the dam, what pleasure would it be? With all the vandalism that you already have, what would that bring in? It would just be terrible, that's all. Sometimes you think, "Well, let them take it and then you can go somewhere else." But where else are you going and that kind of thing. I think it really hurts people who grew up on the land here more than it does people who move in because there are people who move around anyway. Of course, I didn't grow up here, but it's been home for about fifty years. So, that's been a long time. I think we've been back over here about fifty years. We've been married fifty-three. Yes, fifty-three years. It's home to our children. I told my husband last night, I felt like Butch was really enjoying his little visit at home. He's just out messing around.

MK: Who are your other children?

EC: We have one in Winston, as I told you, Francis Hutchinson. Her husband runs the Hutchinson Allgood Printing. She is not the director in the health department at Winston, but she's director of the nurses in the health department of Winston-Salem, Forsyth County. The other daughter is in Greensboro. She has two children, a boy, and a girl. Francis has a boy and girl. Butch has two girls.

MK: So, the grandchildren get out here, at least your daughters can come.

EC: Well, they do. But now the one in Winston, her children, one's in college and the other's at Oak Ridge. So, they don't get down quite like they used to. They used to come a lot every week. [laughter] The other two are grown. So, only my son's two are fourteen and thirteen, I think. Of course, they enjoy coming home in the summertime. They'll be back in July. Yes. They thoroughly enjoyed coming down on the farm.

MK: What kind of farm is this?

EC: Well, this is just home. [laughter]

MK: [laughter]

EC: My husband has worked at public work and just we've had our garden and we still have a garden. He used to raise feed that he fed to his cows. We used to have milk cows when the children were at home. We milked about five cows and we sold raw milk right here at the house. Of course, that was extra. That really wasn't our living. It sure did help educate our kids, though. I can tell you. Now, we've got a few black Angus that we raised for ourselves and our children. But we buy hay. We don't do any farming. Well, it's mostly pastured now, except that right across the road over there. So, we live on the farm, but we don't make our living on the farm. Let's say it that way.

MK: What about the other land in the proposed lake area?

EC: We have a lot of good farmland and several good dairies. If, as I said a while ago, we'll check over and I'll show you some of those. We've got one of its bigger dairies, as is in state of North Carolina within hollering distance over here. When the course says that they're going to take in their book six hundred families, that was back in 1960s and the seventies. But things have changed, but they don't consider the change. They don't realize when they say that it's – I think they've got their figures down to 139 million now, which they did get up to 169 million. They don't realize the value of the land has changed. Or of course, I think it started out maybe at a cost of three or \$4 million. This is what it's gotten up to. But there's a lot more people in the community. There's a lot more farming. The farms are bigger. Well, they gave the farm income in one of those books. We have one farm now that has that much farm income. So, you can see how it has progressed. But they couldn't care less. No, they couldn't care less. But it's like I said, I just feel like that maybe they won't get any money and things will look up and be better. But I still think that it'd be good if we could get a group together. The trouble is, the group that we get are all against it, but we can't get any outsiders. That's our problem. If we could stir up enough interest that somebody else would be interested, then your folks coming would help. But those of us in this coalition know. Of course, we think we know. I don't know whether we really know or not. But anyway, we know enough we don't want it. But we want to give it all the publicity we can. The main thing is to just for them not to get any money. Then if we can get a representative who don't mind being criticized and cut down and try to get it deauthorized. That's what should be done. We did get a little nudge from Pete Carlson. The way I read it, eight years, if it can be proven that it's not feasible to be built, it can be deauthorized. But now, that's a big step for a freshman up in Congress to get done. If it was Ike Andrews, he could have

gotten it done. But Ike Andrews wanted the dam all the time. He was on and off the fence. Oh, we've had some awful arguments. [laughter] Ike Andrews and me, we've talked on that telephone for hours, and he finally just got some, "Ms. Coltrane, we've just talked this over and over and over." I said, "Well, I'm still trying to convince you that we don't need to Randleman Dam." But I think that's what lost his election. I mentioned to Kemp about, well, maybe Cobey would help get it deauthorized. He said, "Well, he won't be in there in two years." I said, "What are you talking about? The Democrats elected him." I said, "If he makes a good representative, do you think Ike Andrews is going back in? No, not if we can help it." [laughter]

MK: [laughter]

MK: So, Cobey is a Republican?

EC: Yes. You see, now Britt was a Democrat from Greensboro, and they were just working tooth and toenail to get this thing passed last year before this last election. Eugene Johnston worked for it. He was a Republican. But then they voted him out and put Britt in as a Democrat. They voted Britt out as a Democrat and put in Coble as a Republican. So, see, they haven't been able to get it pressured through. As Reagan says, "There it goes again." I think the Lord's with us.

MK: [laughter]

EC: Yes. I think he is.

MK: So, Coble is in Greensboro, Guilford County.

EC: Right.

MK: But Cobey's district includes Randolph.

EC: Right.

MK: What other counties are in Cobey's?

EC: They're democratic. They're Orange, Wake, and I believe maybe more.

MK: The old fourth district? Is that what it is? Or second? I cannot remember.

EC: This is the fourth district.

MK: Yes, it is.

EC: Yes.

MK: It has been a long time since I lived down here.

EC: Yes. But the Democrats in Randolph helped get him elected. I can tell you that. Because, of course, now these people down in Orange and Wake, they're sore about the Jordan Lake. If you know anything about that, that started off, of course, with a few million and ended up with so many more, great, big millions. Their water is still not fit to be drunk. So, I'm sure some down there helped too. But Randolph County is the one who elected him and the Democrats had to. Of course, Randolph is a Republican stronghold, but he got some help. But we went to a town meeting Saturday night where Cobey was. Of course, they had had a Republican meeting and then this followed it. A lot of people didn't go maybe on that account, but we went. We didn't care. Thelma Adams and me did, and Cobey was real. He impressed me a lot. I don't think he'll change his mind. I think he's a good Christian man. But it was mentioned on the floor that they had heard that even though you were good when you went into politics, you come out bad. He just grinned at them. But that's what we do need. We need people who can go with their conscience rather than their pressure. Now, if he can do that, it'll be wonderful. But he has come out totally against it. Unless they can prove that there has to be water and that it is suitable for them to drink, and no way can it be suitable for them to drink if they actually take their test. Of course, Bill Boyd, who is a North Carolina representative, but not of our district. Brubaker is our man. But I like Bill Boyd's way of doing things. He said, "Well, the sewage has been going and these toxins you just don't get out. That's all. They're there." So, I don't know what will happen.

MK: Now, going back to the earlier days of the struggle. You said that you got together and sent Kemp Davis and one other young man to Washington. Who was involved in sending them to find out about all this in the first place?

EC: I don't want to give myself praise, but I'll tell you right now, if I hadn't got on the ball, they wouldn't have been there. Now, Thelma Adams had been working on it. But everything was dead. Maybe I shouldn't say this, but as I tell my husband, day after day, I said, "If I hadn't to begin to call around and get people interested, it would never have been done." If it was, nobody had done it. Let's say it that way. Chuck Hoffman told him when he come that Ms. Coltrane was the first person he ever heard from. But now I'll tell you how that come around. Thelma Adams, the lady that I'm talking about, is the one who has just fought it constantly. She's just spent hours and there's no compromise with her. She knew what or knew nothing. But you got to consider some things. Well, anyway, she corresponded with Alex Duris. Have you ever heard of him?

MK: No, I have not.

EC: He is an elderly man now and doesn't get out much anymore. Over in the western part of the state who helped to fight the dam over there on the river.

MK: TVA?

EC: Yes. Well, no, he didn't get to fight TVA. The other river that they saved on the county, the snail darter.

MK: Snail darter. Oh, yes.

EC: Yes. Thelma would write to him. As I say she's worked it much longer than I have, but she wasn't the pusher. She's afraid she'd hurt somebody's feelings, I reckon. But anyway, Mr. Duris told her about the Washington people. Brent Blackwelder was the first person. So, I said, "Well, it won't be any harm to call him or to write to him." I think I wrote to him first and began to ask him about fighting the dam and that kind of thing. Then they sent this literature here. I don't know how long over a period of time that was. They sent the literature here. I said, "Well, Thelma," I said, "Let's get somebody up there." I said, "I feel like that that might be a beginning." So, we begged for money and we got it, and they went and came back.

MK: Then what did they do while they were up there?

EC: Well, they just went to these meetings and they talked to Pete. They may have seen Pete Carlson then, I don't know. But anyway, we were a little late getting in, and I called and they said, "Well, tell them to come on. We'll take care of them." So, they went by an airplane, I believe, for that time. They just went to these different meetings and talked to different folks. That kind of got them inspired about what they wanted to do. In fact, talking about Kemp Davis and them, I don't know whether we'd even gone to work or not, but they found out their farm was going to be taken. So, then they were interested. They were young fellas. So, we had a meeting up at New Market School, and they told us some points about working and maybe what we could do. Well, I don't know what went on. At that meeting, we appointed an advisory board or some people. My health was not good. That's one reason I didn't fight for a while. But as I said, the Lord spared me for something, and maybe this is it. But we began to have meetings and Kemp's own father told us one night up there, he said, "Folks, I'm going to tell you, if it hadn't been for the hours and the time that you spent—" well, we'd meet in his basement a lot of times. They've got a nice place to meet. Then up at his aunt's, we would go up there. I don't believe anything other than the dam would have been on its way. But as I say, when Betty Bailey come in to begin to help us and start things going, she stayed with us a good long while. But now she's not with us right now. She's interested in us, but she's doing something else. But she inspired them and kept pushing them along and that kind of thing. As I said, I'm sure it'll go on without me, but I feel like I've had a part in it. I really have.

MK: Well, I think I mentioned to you on the phone, Pete Carlson's impression of having known people involved in just the kind of local organization you have in twenty-five other states. He said, "It is always women who rise the top and do the work."

EC: [laughter]

MK: He says, "There are men involved."

EC: Oh, yes.

MK: "But there are always women in leadership roles."

EC: I would've been in Washington myself if my health would've permitted it. Ike Andrews invited me up. But I just didn't feel like I could make the trip. I would love to have. I get after

these boys. I said, "Go knock on their doors. Let them know that you're there." Well, who are you going to knock on? I said, "We've got other representatives in Congress from North Carolina. They should be interested in it. They're not." My daughter talked to Steve Neal, representative, or to him, I don't remember which, several years ago. He says, "Keep it off of the floor." She said, "Well, how are we going to keep it off the floor if you don't help us?" I used to tell him that I was going to tell Ike that if they built the dam, that I wanted him to build me a cement coffin to put all this dam material I've got in and when it breaks that he can be responsible for part of it. [laughter]

MK: [laughter]

EC: My son was in Washington for a while. He used to be with Air America. He'd come into Washington, then he'd finally come back there and lived about a year. But they'd go back through there every so often. I said, "I wish you'd go around and talk to Ike Andrews and some of them about the dam." So, he called over there one day and he talked to Mr. Hughes and he told him who he was. Mr. Hughes said, "Yes, I'm well acquainted with your mother on the telephone." [laughter] Because if things bothered me, I'd get on the line and let him know it. Ike Andrews promised me that whenever he finally said that he was for the dam, that he would let me be the first one to know it. Believe it or not, when Hughes come to Ashburn to put out the release, I was subbing down at North Junior High. He called me and he said, "Well, Ms. Coltrane – " I don't remember what he'd call him. I called him Ike." – said that he told you that you would know this before it was released to the press. That's why I've called you." I said, "Well, it's not any more than I expected. All I've got to say is you haven't heard the last of it." [laughter] He said, "I know that."

MK: [laughter]

EC: I would like to have met him. I never did get to meet him, Mr. Hughes. I told him a lot of times, I said, "You know, if I don't make it back up there, you don't have a job." He said, "Oh, I don't think we've got anything to worry about." I said, "Time will tell."

MK: When was he defeated? Was it eighty-two?

EC: In this last election.

MK: Was it eighty-two?

EC: Yes. This last election, 1984.

MK: Oh, eighty-four.

EC: Yes, eighty-four, he was defended. I understand he's in Washington working with one of our representatives and I guess trying to get the Randleman Dam. I don't know, that's just guesswork. I don't know where Mr. Hughes is. He may be up there too but had a lot of fun about it.

MK: I do not know, just from the point of view of one who has been involved in this fight, you, and Thelma.

EC: Thelma Adams.

MK: Adams. Why did it just turn out that it was women rather than men doing that work in the beginning?

EC: Well, now, if we look further back, we had a fella over here who owned a farm, Richard Earl Johnson. Now, for some reason we didn't get involved whenever he was working on that, helping get up petitions to fight it. As I say, I have not attended the meetings. Like when the Corps came here for the hearings, my husband went, my son went, but I never went. But I don't know why the men didn't do that. I just don't know why. He was very active back when Sam Irving and some of them were, back when it was first authorized. But as far as the community working, it was at a time, I guess when I was working and had my children and probably didn't tell you, I just don't know why they didn't. Well, in fact, people didn't think it was coming. That was really the biggest thing. A lot of them now thinks it won't. Oh, it's dead, it's not going to do anything. That's been the attitude. They didn't think it was coming. As I say, Kemp's father would never have done anything about it if Kemp hadn't got involved because he's a politician himself and he didn't think there's a need trying. I don't think he even thought we'd ever turn the commissioners around. Of course, I think he had a great deal to do with that because he has been a county board of education chairman and he worked with all those men. I think he did have a bearing on their attorney. I don't know whether they would have listened to us if he had not been a spokesman at that time. That's one politician working with another one.

MK: But a lot of what you did that the men did not do that is different, it sounds like, is women talking around and forming networks, calling.

EC: Right. [inaudible]

MK: When it takes a final form, it will sound like you just said one thing after another. But [laughter] we can put it in order if we need to. [laughter]

EC: We were interviewed last, well, it's been since the hard freeze came because it had killed our onions and everything. From Winston-Salem, the fella came down here and interviewed my husband and me. Of course, we went out. We were out in the yard. Oh, these kids at school, "Ms. Coltrane, I saw you on TV last night." Some of them said, "Well, here comes the movie star," and that kind of thing.

MK: [laughter]

EC: I said, "That's all right. I don't care what you say about me. You know I don't have too many years left anyway, but I'm going to keep fighting." But as I said, back in 1976, I developed this heart condition. For a while, I just wouldn't do anything. My principal down here, I managed the cafeteria down there for ten years, and he said, "Ms. Coltrane, when that Randleman Dam is stopped or is built, what are you going to be doing?" I said, "Well, I don't

know. My time may be up. Maybe the Lord spared me for this and maybe this is just about it." He looks so funny, and I said, "Oh, well," I said, "I can always come down here and give your teachers a free day or something." I said, "But I'm taking all my money now to fight for Randleman Dam."

MK: [laughter]

EC: They all teased me about being the dam lady.

MK: [laughter]

EC: Down at North Junior High, the principal down there is real nice. He told me the other day, he said, "Ms. Coltrane, I haven't seen any letters lately." I said, "Well, I'm getting one together, but they haven't published it yet. I don't know whether they will or not." Although, they called Cobey a Santa. They didn't say Santa Claus, but he was a Santa. He promised everything. I thought that was unfair to him. I wrote him a letter, but it wasn't in yesterday's paper. But if they don't put it in there, I will be calling.

MK: [laughter]

EC: Pete has put out a release for the papers. Did he tell you that on the Randleman Dam?

MK: No, he did not.

EC: I had not seen it in the papers. So, I called in to one of our papers and they said they received it last week, it would be in this week's paper. *The Courier*, our main paper, they said they had not received one. I said, "Well, if you don't, let me know. I've got one in my hands and I'll be glad to send you." So, I know Pete wants to know what the feedback is to it. Oh, I cut out clippings and send to him. We have Bill Holman, who is lobbyist for the North Carolina Conservation Council, is very interested and I send him the copies and several of the Sierra Club members, you know, they might see it in the paper, but they might not. But if you send them the thing, then they can see it.

MK: It is already cut.

EC: Right.

MK: They can just put it in their pocket.

EC: So, that's one thing that we've done. We've tried to keep those people in touch with anything that we find in the paper that comes out that we think would be interesting about the quality of water and that kind of thing. Of course, the press is what helped get the report on the quality of water out. I'm sure it did. There was one of the members indirectly responsible for getting after the press and that kind of thing.

MK: When you had your heart condition become evident...



EC: It's angina.

MK: Did you have some kind of attack then?

EC: Well, yes, I did. That's when they found it. I had heart damage. But I'm not even on medication now. Of course, now I might be dead before morning, but we don't know about those things. But I've gotten along just fine.

MK: Well, how long was the period when you were recuperating?

EC: I'd say a couple of years.

MK: Then you just started getting stronger again?

EC: Yes. But I still can't do what I would have normally been able to do. Like I said, I would have gone to Washington had I thought that I could stand the trip up there and back, not ruining it for somebody else. We've sent people up there three or four years, I guess, at different times. We sent some up to the meetings that the environmentalists had. We didn't send anybody this year. Now, Kemp and them were up there the 28th of March. But when did you say the meeting was?

MK: It was right after that. I think the 28th was either Thursday or Friday. The meeting was there.

EC: I don't know why they didn't stay for that. I guess we were not informed enough.

MK: Maybe it was a Saturday.

EC: Surely, we got some material on that.

MK: Yes.

EC: But two years ago, I think there was about five people who went up there then to this meeting.

MK: Were they talking to the subcommittee meetings?

EC: No. No. They went to the meeting.

MK: To the Dam Fighters Conference there.

EC: Yes, the Dam Fighters Conference. Last year, Kemp's father, as I said, is a politician, and he went to Helms. Yes, they didn't go to the conference, they went before the committee to testify, I guess and Brubaker, our representative in North Carolina State Legislature. Helms told Mr. Davis then he said – now that had already got past the house. It was in the house. That's the

way it was. The money, same time as yours was passed. But Helms told Mr. Davis, he said, "You go home. If it gets to the Senate, it won't pass." So, of course it didn't get to the Senate. You remember they traded some of the water projects off of Reagan, something else. Then one year, Kemp and Betty Bailey – no, one year, Betty Bailey and Tom Osborne, now not the Tom Z, not the man headman in Greensboro, but one who's helping us, went. I don't believe anybody went that year, but Tom and Betty. They went through to the Rivers Conference.

EC: As I say, we've been pretty well represented up there.

MK: Has Helms been any more public about that? His position on it?

EC: No. Now, as I say, Mr. Davis is a politician and he says, "Let's don't push him now." We don't want to make him come out with a statement now. All politicians won't do things undercover, so this is why we're not pushing Helms. He used to do whatever Helms does. So, we're just not. Because Greensboro's putting a lot of pressure. Of course, they've got a whole lot more clout than we've got. But, as I say, I feel kind of good about it. I don't know. I may be disappointed. Maybe I've got to learn to take a disappointment. I cannot understand how they can give all this pork barrel money to the Corps of Engineer to squabble on. Now, Cobey has sent out a questionnaire. One of the questions was, "At the end, do you want Randleman Dam?" Then also something about the budget. I can't remember just what it was. But you could make other remarks about how you felt like the budget could be. I said, "Stop the pork barrel money." Of course, that would stop Randleman Dam. The Corps of Engineer is just a parasite to the government and to the people, I think. Maybe they have had their day, whenever they had to fight wars and build bridges, but they don't need that now. Now, they have begun the dam up in West Virginia. Is that right, the Corps has?

MK: Yes. They actually have begun construction. They have got it. I don't know, looking at it. I have not seen it and I do not know what that represents, whether it's twenty-five percent done. But they have already spent 87 million up there.

EC: Eighty-seven. What did they start out with? Three or four million?

MK: Sure. Yes.

EC: Three or four million, I think.

MK: Now that one, I am sure if you went back before authorization and found out what they proposed.

EC: Oh, this was proposed...

MK: Way long ago.

EC: Yes. This dam was proposed for flood control in 1968. Since then they have added recreation and water. But it originally was flood control. But since people have built ponds and lakes, this used to flood Bladen County. I don't know whether you know that or not.

MK: Way down.

EC: Yes. We have a man in our community who lived down there and he said since all that's happened, they don't have the floods down there like they did. So, they don't really need it for flood control. A little town down here called Cedar Falls had some industries right on the river. They're not there anymore. People know the river is there, why they want to build on it for, is my idea. But now Bladen County was a farming section and of course it did then. But he said that did not happen now. I don't know.

MK: So, the Sierra Club themselves, now they are going to have a Sierra Club sponsored meeting. Is that right?

EC: Right.

MK: Not necessarily focusing on the Deep River or maybe?

EC: Yes. It's to be on the Deep River.

MK: This could coincide with your local meeting or?

EC: Well, it would have had we not changed ours.

MK: I see.

EC: Now, I don't know what her project is. She said they need some – if you'll excuse me a minute. Let me get a few maps and bring out. They want some maps.

MK: Good. Fine.

Unknown Female Speaker: Backing up a little bit, Lindsay Cox is not even looking anywhere else. He is committed to the Randleman site?

MK: No, but she does.

EC: Well, that's the way we feel that he's doing. That no matter what he finds, the Randleman dam is it.

Unknown Female Speaker: I was afraid that was not true but thought maybe it was.

Unknown Female Speaker: Why is that? I do not understand.

EC: Well, he has been for the Randleman Dam all the time. He says that they have talked about this for years and years and time's running out on us and we've got to do something. Greensboro's going to dry up. The Corps plainly states in their book, it is not to bring in industry. It was first authorized for flood control. Then they come along and they've added

recreation and water. So, Greensboro took hold and the Triad Council of Governments. I don't know whether you remember or not, but a few years back, they fired a fella in the Triad Council of Governments because he said it would be a cesspool.

MK: [laughter]

Unknown Female Speaker: I was not aware of that, but I am not surprised.

Unknown Female Speaker: How right he was. Yes.

EC: That was mentioned to Mr. Cox and he tried to wiggle out of it.

Unknown Female Speaker: Do you know why?

EC: They got there. I sat on the Randleman Dam because, excuse me, of recreation. They say that they want to have the water so they can have more industry.

Unknown Female Speaker: Yes. At Greensboro, we definitely want some more industry.

EC: But don't you know people are happy like Greensboro is? They don't want an Atlanta City or a big city.

Unknown Female Speaker: Somebody in Greensboro wants it.

EC: Yes, your Tom Z. Osborne does. Tom Z. Osborne down at the meeting in Pittsboro, North Carolina about two years ago, that the fella in the natural resources, whatever his name is, I can't remember. Morris? No, that's what he said. He said they needed it so that they could bring better people to Guilford County and they would want recreation. We didn't have a chance to say, "Hey mister, we think we're good enough and we own this land. Why should we give it to them?"

Unknown Female Speaker: Yes. Why should we sell our land so that you can have somebody else come in?

EC: That's right. But we would love to have had a pie to hit him in the face with or something, but we didn't.

Unknown Female Speaker: Next time, bring a pie.

EC: Okay. [laughter]

Unknown Female Speaker: [laughter]

EC: Oh, now you are representing the Sierra Club, right?

Unknown Female Speaker: Yes. I was interested in how many people would be displaced by

this?

EC: Well, according to the Corps of Engineer, about six hundred families. But as I was telling this fella here, the Corps has not come back and reevaluated the location. They're just given Congress what they found back 1968 or before. The Randleman Dam has been talked of ever since the [19]30s. A lot of people, "We're going to get a dam on the Randleman, on the Deep River."

Unknown Female Speaker: What was the purpose then? It was not the water as well.

EC: Flood control. Flood control was your first purpose. Well, I wish we had Thelma Adams over here. She could just tell you all of it. It was for flood control. Then back in the [19]60s, I think after it was authorized, they said, "No, we can't build this unless we put on recreation and water supply."

Unknown Female Speaker: Who said that?

EC: Well, our federal government. I'm sure the Corps had that run through them.

Unknown Female Speaker: Well, as I understand it, the Corps had a master plan for flood control for the whole of the United States.

EC: Right, they did. The Cape Fear basin. Oh, yes.

Unknown Female Speaker: This was one of their projects. So, when you have a bureaucracy start out with something in mind, it is in the records, right?

EC: Right.

Unknown Female Speaker: That kind of flood control thing was the original purpose. Maybe it is not needed anymore, so you have to add other political reasons.

EC: That's right.

Unknown Female Speaker: Water seems the most durable one to me in my ignorance of this whole issue because I feel very new to this. If that is the case, then it would make much more sense to have your dam north of Greensboro where there are no cities dumping into the river.

EC: Dumping into the water. Yes.

Unknown Female Speaker: It seems amazing to me that there is so much commitment to the Randleman Dam when we know the river is polluted and it will cost a lot to clean it up. For a drinking water supply, that seems...

Unknown Female Speaker: That is a lot of people who stand to make money off the recreation.

EC: Right.

Unknown Female Speaker: Somebody wants it and somebody wants it badly and they are going to make money all the way.

Unknown Female Speaker: Yes.

EC: Yes. Right. Just like your people who bought the land out near Oak Ridge. There was a farm for sale and they went together and they bought this farm. Now, then it is turning into this business that's coming to Greensboro now the...

Unknown Female Speaker: Yes, the American Express.

EC: Yes. American Express. See? That poor, old man that sold that farm didn't realize that someday that it would be used for that. No telling how many thousands or maybe millions of dollars, I don't know how it would be, that they're making off of that farm. But that poor farmer didn't get that money.

Unknown Female Speaker: Yes.

EC: That's what they want to do with us. The Corps will not pay us a fair price for our land. They say they will, but they never have. It's a fair price to them, but not to the person who lives there because that's their home and don't want to sell it. If it did, as I told one of them, I said, "Sir, if we wanted to sell our land, we'd get out and sell it. We wouldn't wait for you to buy it."

Unknown Female Speaker: Do you know how many acres was going to be involved?

EC: I said around twelve thousand. It's right there. There's about a seven thousand acres of it will be for recreation and so on. I think the lake itself maybe, would require a little over two thousand. I did have the exact figures. You're talking about this water here. Their intention was building another dam down Cape Fear. This is what they call the Cape Fear Basin. They've already built one down at Jordan Lake. Is it High Falls? But the one below us, people didn't want it down there and they'd come on up to Randleman. Because Greensboro took a hand in it, you see, and began to promote it. So, that that one died away, some mill I can't remember right offhand. They had another dam on the river. They've also got another dam plan if they got this one. As I said, Ms. Adams can tell you all of them. But if I don't read it occasionally, I lose out on it. But that's their intention. But now remember, when they build this, they've got to pipe the High Point affluent down beside of it under the river back down. The pool will be between the dam and the river bridge on 220.

Unknown Female Speaker: So, it will come right down to you.

EC: Right.

Unknown Female Speaker: As your drinking water?

EC: No, that's not our drinking water. We get ours out of the well. But it will be in the pond over there. But that pond's going to be, as was mentioned, the dry flow will be seventy-one percent out of High Point sewage system will be going down the river in dry times. That's all they'll get below the dam. That doesn't sound good, does it?

Unknown Female Speaker: No, it sure does not.

EC: Why those people don't wake up, we don't know. We've tried to wake them, but they're still sleeping.

Unknown Female Speaker: Who that is still sleeping?

EC: People down the river. [laughter]

Unknown Female Speaker: Well, who is down the river?

EC: Well, it goes on down. It empties in down at Deep River, finally ends up down at Lake Jordan, down in that area.

Unknown Female Speaker: I was trying to follow that but I could not see it very well.

Unknown Female Speaker: Yes. We came as Moore County and then the map trailed off.

EC: It goes on down. Is it Lillington?

Unknown Female Speaker: That is down there. Yes.

EC: Yes.

Unknown Female Speaker: I have been canoeing down off of the Lillington.

EC: Well, now I'll tell you how come they did begin to think about that. You know the Joe Connor in High Point?

Unknown Female Speaker: Yes.

EC: He's in your Sierra Club. He is the one that pointed that out. You talk to Joe, he knows.

Unknown Female Speaker: Do you mean Bob Connor at High Point?

EC: Yes. Bob instead of Joe. Right. Oh, excuse me.

MK: Turns back north right there.

EC: Yes, but it goes on down.

MK: Below Sanford.

EC: Below Sanford. It goes on down through Fayetteville, I know. No, wait. Now, the Cape Fear goes to – but this river dumps into that. What's the name of that place?

MK: That is Lillington right there.

EC: Lillington's what I'm talking about, I think. The Connor fella knows the lay of the land and he says he can't understand why those people down there are not fussing about it.

Unknown Female Speaker: Way below.

MK: We are on the Rocky River there. Here comes the Deep River. Now turn back.

Unknown Female Speaker: Have actually people contacted and say, "Why are you not buying this?"

EC: No, but maybe he would know.

MK: Where the Rocky and the Deep come together, that must be the beginning of the Cape Fear.

Unknown Female Speaker: Yes.

EC: He was at our meeting in (Appalachia?). He was at the City Lake dump place. I don't know whether you were there that Sunday or not?

Unknown Female Speaker: No, I was not there.

EC: But he was there and he's the one that mentioned this to us. That people down there should be awake.

Unknown Female Speaker: The people who are going to be drinking the sewage ought to know that that is what will happen to them.

EC: Yes. Right.

Unknown Female Speaker: How far down is Lillington from here?

EC: You might tell us more about that Lillington, how far down the river is. But it finally goes into Lake Jordan somewhere down there. They all go in down there.

MK: Well, Lake Jordan is just above it is coming in and so is the Rocky River coming in. They are all coming together right around here on Moncure.

EC: Well, maybe it's Moncure instead of Lillington, but it's on down the way.



MK: Northern Lee County.

EC: Yes.

Unknown Female Speaker: Because here's where the Deep comes with the Rocky River, and there's the Cape Fear down there and the Jordan River is on the...

EC: We have a lot of little streams between here and High Point that are dumping into Deep River. How many people have septic tanks run into those little streams that they don't know anything about?

Unknown Female Speaker: Yes. That is one of the biggest problems is runoff from the land.

EC: But if you would get in touch with Mr. Connor, I'm sure that he can give you some points on that. If you find out anybody to contact, we'll be glad to work with you.

Unknown Female Speaker: It would be easy to find. Oh, right. There must be so many people down there who would be upset about it, would be willing to say they are upset about it, if they just knew the problems that were going to come up.

EC: Yes. Well, would you ladies like to go maybe with this fella and we'd all go over to where the site of the dam. We can't see exactly, but we can see in the neighborhood of where the dam's going to be.

Unknown Female Speaker: Yes. We would like it.

Unknown Female Speaker: That is what we came here for.

Unknown Female Speaker: We would love to. Would you like to do that?

MK: I would love to do that.

Unknown Female Speaker: [laughter]

MK: I will tell you right here on tape.

EC: So, we will spend the afternoon doing that kind of thing.

Unknown Female Speaker: Can you believe this? [laughter]

EC: I see my coffee's not quite done. Would you all like to have a cup of coffee? I believe I've got some fudge too. I don't have anything else to give you, but I think I've got some fudge maybe.

Unknown Female Speaker: That is certainly quite all right.

EC: But I thought, "Well, these people are over at Level Cross. They are not going to want to sit over there for two hours."

Unknown Female Speaker: Had you planned to go to the site this afternoon?

EC: Well, I thought we would go and show it some.

MK: That is the first thing she told me.

Unknown Female Speaker: That is perfect. That is exactly what we wanted to do today.

EC: Now, I can't take you down to the site. I've never been down there because it's too much of a trek for me.

Unknown Female Speaker: We brought our hiking boots ready to go hoping that you would be able to tell us where we need to go.

Unknown Female Speaker: [laughter]

EC: Well, now, those people who are over there, they can show you. You probably can see the paths that's been worn out. But I will not go down there with you. I'm afraid I can't get back. because you have to walk down there.

MK: Do you want to call? You said you thought Kemp Davis might be...

EC: I've already called those, but, well, let's see if we can get ahold of Kemp.

MK: Sure.

EC: Kemp could go right on down there with you.

MK: Yes. He is a hiker.

Unknown Female Speaker: [laughter] That is Steve.

MK: Well, I do not. I think when she is talking about something, she has a heart condition.

Unknown Female Speaker: Yes.

MK: She was explaining to me how she was involved in this fight and then not involved with it for a couple of years because she was recuperating from angina. So, I do not think that. Well, what is the Sierra Club's interest in this? Can you give me a little background on that?

Unknown Female Speaker: The previous conservation chair had organized a public hearing two years ago about it. She has done extensive work on studying the environmental impact

statements and following the water quality issues, is what she has been interested in. Because the dam never seems to quite go away, coming up now in the Congress there is an item in the budget \$2.5 million for land acquisition. One week ago, there was some hearings that Kemp Davis went to testify for, to explain local feelings about the dam. Our congressman, Howard Coble, is undecided at the moment. He would like to have input, is how he has said it. He is under pressure from the Greensboro city people who are committed to having the Randleman Dam for the reasons we have just heard. [laughter] Water reservoir was probably what he will sell the citizens on. I am not sure about recreation. Does recreation sound legitimate?

EC: It's a big, shallow one.

Unknown Female Speaker: Is it really?

Unknown Female Speaker: I guess it would be. I have not heard anything mentioned in connection with that.

EC: Oh, yes.

Unknown Female Speaker: In this particular one, I do not know. But that is what sells so many dams, so many places, the recreational value.

Unknown Female Speaker: I wonder how Jordan Lake is going over. Because I remember that as having been a very big point to selling the Jordan. Well, that has been going on for years and years. When they finally did finish the dam and the lake was filling up, how long ago was that now? A couple of years. Did they open it a couple of years ago? [laughter]

EC: I don't know.

MK: Yes, I think probably more like that. It has been at full pool for a while now.

Unknown Female Speaker: Yes. [laughter] It takes a while for water to back up. But the major problem with the Deep River is there is several cities – well High Point has dumped into it. There is agricultural land. Who knows what kind of industries have put effluent into it. There has been a study just released in the last several couple of months about the water quality itself. Those studies were finished in September and the results took a long time to get published. But there are toxics in there. There is heavy metals. There is some unspecified quantities of lead and copper. The Sierra Club conservation chair, Kathy Gallucci had pointed out that the heavier toxics settle into the riverbed. They do not get washed away.

Unknown Female Speaker: Washed out.

Unknown Female Speaker: They will be in the impoundment. They will exist there. We will have to do something about that. Getting water from a free-flowing river is a little different from getting it from a standing river and a standing dam, in that you have all those metals and chemicals and things are still there. They do not flow down the river.

Unknown Female Speaker: Carolyn Allen was telling me this morning, the city of Randleman had leased for ten or fifteen years a dump site, about five-acre dump site around here.

EC: Yes.

Unknown Female Speaker: That they do not know what is in that.

EC: Right.

Unknown Female Speaker: What kind of garbage was put in there.

EC: I'll give you one of these and I'll give you one.

MK: Is that the one you were telling me the Corps covered over?

EC: Yes. Covered up, yes.

MK: [laughter]

EC: I'll give you one.

MK: They are good with bulldozers.

EC: I'll give you some on the back too. No, now where's the rest of this? I'll see if I can find it. [laughter]

Unknown Female Speaker: Thank you.

Unknown Female Speaker: Yes. They will clean it up.

Unknown Female Speaker: But then there thing is, yes, that they are going to take care of that.

EC: I brought this out to him and I will look again for the rest of it. Did any of you happen to see Chuck Austin's article in 1982?

Unknown Female Speaker: No.

EC: But now we live right here as I was showing him. It first begun, they were going to take right on up to 220, see? But they say now they're backing off. So, I don't know. It's just say you don't trust the Corps of Engineers with anything.

Unknown Female Speaker: That bulldozer is...

MK: [laughter]

Unknown Female Speaker: Well, this looks a little different than our map. Our map just shows

one finger going up. This shows two fingers.

EC: Well, that's the original, the first map that the Corps of Engineer ever sent to me. That must have been back in 1968.

Unknown Female Speaker: Oh, yes. It does show two fingers here. Yes, just like that one, is it not?

EC: Let me see if I got anything else here that I might pass on to you. Do you have the...

Unknown Female Speaker: Land acquisition?

MK: That is the original take area.

Unknown Female Speaker: The land acquisition areas.

MK: Yes.

EC: Now here is the executive, that's what I gave her, was executive summary of the water quality. They sent this out to us, but we were not allowed to use it. Somebody slipped it out to us. But now and then it can be shown. [laughter] Because the big one came out. But I sent mine on up to Pete Carlson. This is the one that Hoffman wrote. This is the one that Pete Carlson wrote. You may have seen those.

Unknown Female Speaker: I have got some of these. I am not sure which ones.

EC: But I don't have the one copy on that. As I said, I sent my copy right on up to Pete that we got from the state. Some of their members got a hold of it.

Unknown Female Speaker: The Sierra Club conference hearing on the Randleman.

EC: Yes.

Unknown Female Speaker: Oh, not sure at this point. We are having a meeting tomorrow to see about what...

EC: But now, they are going to have a town meeting whether you'll be allowed to say anything or not. But you might get your nose stuck in there. Might be able to get a little plug in for the Randleman Dam.

Unknown Female Speaker: For?

EC: For us against.

MK: For talking about it. [laughter]

EC: For talking against it. I'll add a little more to that. Right.

Unknown Female Speaker: But we have not chosen a date for the public meeting, have we?

Unknown Female Speaker: No.

EC: That's what we were talking about, the public meeting. Now, we were planning one the 5th of May. But we have changed that. Well, probably June that we're going to try to have one. We would love for some of the Sierra members and anybody from Greensboro that we could get down here. We're hoping to have Pete Carlson with us. The date on that that we're trying, we haven't decided definitely, but it'd be some time now in the first week of June or second week. We don't know exactly.

Unknown Female Speaker: But we, the Sierra Club in Greensboro, were talking about a hearing, and we ought to combine all this, I would think.

EC: Yes. Well, what we want to do, June, they talked about here or maybe the next. In fact, we're in touch or are supposed to be. I don't know whether Kemp's got in touch with Pete or not. As you said a while ago, it might take the lady to get on the telephone to find out.

MK: [laughter]

EC: We're going to kind of work it around if he can come sometime in June.

Unknown Female Speaker: Our date, Elizabeth, was the 18th as I have it here.

EC: Or on a Sunday. Don't you think Sunday is a better time to have just a general meeting?

Unknown Female Speaker: I am not sure who came up with that date, but whoever came up with it said the 18th of April.

EC: Well, that was one of the dates they gave me. They gave me three.

Unknown Female Speaker: Yes. We are not sure. The 21st was another one.

Unknown Female Speaker: Yes.

EC: But anyway, they printed one that I did. You folks get some of your people or anybody that you know to write Coble a letter.

Unknown Female Speaker: It has been on my calendar and that is what I was supposed to be doing today, is to write those letters of that same sort.

EC: Do that, and anyone that you know, get him to write Coble a letter or call his Greensboro office and tell him that you're against the Randleman Dam. Now, Cobey in this district has sent out a questionnaire, and one of his is, "Do you favor the Randleman Dam?" So, we have been on

the...

[end of transcript]