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25650
REC'D
PRES. COUNCIL

Adm Ac.

Kaunist Electric Lightng Concession

Date

12 Aug.

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THE NAIROBI ELECTRIC POWER & LIGHTING COMPANY, LTD.

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"ELECTRIC", NAIROBI.

TELEPHONE NO.
4021 Central.

A.C. CODE - 270. KATHON
S.I.T.



8, & 9, MARTINS LANE,
CANNON STREET,

C O
25650
REC'D
Aug 11 1911

LONDON, 4th August 1911.
E.C.

In reference to my letter of the 29 March last and to the interview which I had with your Committee, appointed to deal with the matter, I regret that I must again most respectfully point out, the, in my opinion, very grave results likely to arise from the continued delay which has arisen in coming to a decision on the matter.

I think that there can be little doubt that at some future date, not very far distant, it must come that an electric power supply for Nairobi and district must take its power from other falls than those we are now using, which are quite incapable of supplying an thing like the amount which will be required.

Of the falls anywhere in the vicinity, I think it is undisputed that certain falls on the Thika River are the only ones really feasible.

At one time it was generally thought that the upper falls, just above where the Chania and Thika Rivers meet, would be the most suitable, which opinion I shared and at that time, being, even then some 3 years ago, in negotiation with the East African Government on this subject, I took steps which, by the way, cost me a certain amount, to enable certain complications with landowners to be got over, should anything come of the negotiations between myself and Government.

Nothing however came of these and after further investigations I came to the conclusion that some falls some 12 miles further down the river were very much more suitable for a big power scheme.

I therefore let the upper falls matter drop, and took up the lower falls scheme, about which I have had the honour of having many ~~discussions~~ discussions with H.E. Sir Percy Girouard.

Now to enable these lower falls to be used, it has been necessary to make arrangements with landowners in the vicinity.

This I have done, but as I was not prepared to spend some £12000 in doing this and then have the risk of nothing coming of the scheme through

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discussions - 8794 - 20

failure of agreement between Government and myself, I did not purchase what I wanted outright but merely made such arrangements as would safeguard myself, against others at any time being able to use the falls to their full benefit as against me, and taking an option to obtain all that was necessary for their full use, should I want them.

Now this option, as I have before pointed out, expires in the middle of October next and the question is, is it to be exercised or not?

It is practically impossible, at any rate as far as I am concerned to get it extended, there are several parties concerned and some are in England and some in S. I. A.

Therefore if Government feel that they cannot give me a definite answer one way or the other, as to on what lines they are prepared to negotiate with me, I really must ask that I may be informed at once and in time to write out to my representative in Nairobi to take whatever action may be necessary to protect my own interests.

This question of this fall is infinitely more far-reaching and ever important in the future to Nairobi and its surroundings than it is to me and it will be with deep regret that I shall see, what appears to me to be the only way of escape from a very bad situation, missed.

At any rate there will be sufficient on record to show that I have for years used my best endeavours to assist the Government in putting an end to it, before it became harmful to anybody.

It had been at great inconvenience that I have been able to keep the matter open for all these years, and at some v. times, and it is utterly impossible to continue to do so, till some undefined time, when possibly some new body may be created, who may possibly have some large interest in the matter.

I remain, Sir,

Yours obediently

The Under Secretary of State
for the Colonies

R. F. Baylton
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(R. F. Baylton)

650

B. E.A.P.

396

2 days 1850

[Handwritten scribble]



9 Aug 1911

DRAFT

R. C. Bayliss Esq

In reply to

MINUTE.

Mr. Barker Aug 8

Mr. Read 8

Mr. Fiddes

Mr. Just.

Mr. Cox

Sir C. Lucas.

Sir J. Anderson
Lord Lucas

Mr. Harcourt.

Your letter of the 4th of August

is directed by me

to Mr. Harcourt.

to inform you that

it is necessary

to consult the

of the E.A.P. in

the matter of the

for London.

also in C.A.
23805

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copy for committee

8798-20
+ 1850

session held by
the Manitoba Electric
Power and Lighting
Company, Ltd, and
~~is therefore~~

~~not~~ ~~to~~ ~~be~~ ~~in~~
it is in a position
to put forward
any definite proposals
as the result of
the discussions which
are taken place
in this country.

~~It~~ ~~has~~ ~~been~~ ~~found~~
~~that~~ ~~it~~ ~~is~~ ~~not~~ ~~possible~~
to ~~be~~ ~~able~~
to I am so


J. V. Fiddes.