

August 10, 1981

Commissioner John Katz  
Department of Natural Resources  
Pouch M  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Commissioner Katz:

On behalf of the Water Resources Board, I would like to welcome you to your new position as Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources. The Water Resources Board was established by the Water Use Act, passed in 1966 by the Legislature, to advise the Governor on all matters relating to the use of water. The attached historical sketch and memo on accomplishments of the Board will give you an idea of our activities since reactivation in 1978. The Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources is designated as executive secretary and as such is considered a non-voting member of the Board along with the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation. As a member you are copied with all correspondence.

In recent meetings Ted Smith has usually represented the Commissioner and staff support has been provided by the Water Management Section of the Division of Forest, Land and Water Management.

The Board meets three times per year at various places around the state. As mentioned in the attached documents, official Board action is usually the form of a letter or resolution, but we feel our greatest usefulness may be in our informal activities. We feel we accomplish much by informally discussing problems with agency representatives at our meeting, both during the meeting proper and after hours, and also by bringing agency representatives together at our meetings.

The Board is, of course, interested in your view of the role of the Department of Natural Resources in water resources and also your view of the role of the Water Resources Board within the Department. We invite you to discuss this at one of our meetings. Our next meeting tentatively scheduled December, 9-11 1981 in Soldotna.

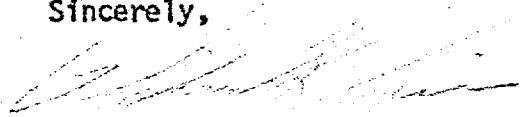
John Katz  
Commissioner

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Again, welcome to the Department. We wish you luck as commissioner and if there is any way we can be of assistance please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Richard H. Sims  
Chairman