

JUNEAU

August 13, 1980

Richard H. Sims Chairman Water Resources Board 323 E. 4th Avenue Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Sims:

Thank you for your letter recommending that Alaska join the Western States Water Council. After reading your letter, Governor Hammond asked that I respond to convey to you his appreciation for the points you make in favor of our official affiliation with the Council.

Your comments are timely; we have just embarked on the process of developing the FY 82 budget. The Department of Natural Resources' budget includes membership on the Council as a possible project for the coming fiscal year. It is too early, however, to predict which items will make the final cut.

We will be certain to keep your suggestion in mind as difficult decisions are made toward refining the budget into its final form. I, for one, believe that Alaska would benefit greatly from the Council's experience and expertise.

Thank you again for your endorsement. I will make certain that your recommendations are made known to all Budget Review Committee members.

Sincerely,

Special Assistant to the Governor

cc: Budget Review Committee w/enclosure