



## KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

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DON GILMAN  
MAYOR

February 16, 1979

Mr. Richard Sims, Chairman  
Water Resources Board  
c/o Steve Mack, Associate Planner  
Department of Natural Resources  
323 East Fourth Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Sims:

This is to respond to the interest of the Water Resources Board in my concerns and recommendations about the Alaska Coastal Management Program.

The ACMP could be an opportunity for the state and local governments to reach reasonable agreement about the uses of the state's coastal resources. Such agreements would presumably consider natural interests, statewide interests, regional interests, and local interests. They would consider immediate and long range concerns. They would help to bridge the gap between state and local government.

The ACMP is not accomplishing these objectives for a number of reasons. The major reason is that most state agencies involved, and particularly Fish and Game, DEC, and Natural Resources, have approached the ACMP from the standpoint of forcing their values and general ideas upon districts (meaning local governments) rather than attempting to reach reasonable agreement. This can be observed through review of the Alaska Coastal Policy Council's minutes and actions concerning "uses of state concern". Some state agencies have attempted to define uses of state concern so that every function and program of their agency would in their view have to be included in the district plan as the approved use for a particular coastal area.

These state agencies would be furthering their cause better if they had never heard the phrase "uses of state concern". They should concentrate upon developing plans and programs as directed by statute and providing information about their plans to the districts for incorporation in the district plans. In most cases, the state agencies advance planning is now so miniscule that they have little to provide to the districts. This is probably why they are so eager to "cover themselves" by trying to have everything under the sun recognized as a "use of state concern".

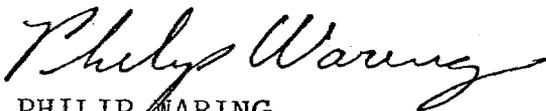
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The outcome of their "uses of state concern" campaign will have little effect upon the conclusions of district plans in my opinion. It will, in fact, dilute the effectiveness of these agencies because the substantive activities of the agencies will not be identifiable from those of little importance.

If the ACMP is to be turned around from the standpoint of state/local cooperation, then the state agencies must change their attitude about their relationship to the program. To accomplish this, the Governor must clearly and publicly state his position with regard to the ACMP and direct his commissioners to support this position. The Division of Policy Development and Planning should be given the task of monitoring the ACMP progress, critiquing agency participation, and periodically reviewing this progress with the commissioners and Governor.

I hope that these comments represent a reasonable approach to the Alaska Coastal Management Program. Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



PHILIP WARING  
Planning Director

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to districts (and any local organizations) to reach reasonable agreement. This is a review of the Alaska Coastal Policy Council's "uses of state concern" campaign. The purpose of this review is to help the agencies and districts of their agency work in their