

STATE OF ALASKA

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

Water Board

323 E. 4TH AVENUE — ANCHORAGE 99501

Resolution 79-10

Rural Alaska Water Allocations

WHEREAS the Alaska State Water Resources Board has heard testimony indicating that many rural inhabitants have not and are not applying for water rights through the existing permit process; and

WHEREAS we believe that the source of this refusal is based on a lack of information or misinformation on the effect of applying for water rights because of existing litigation between a native village corporation, a cannery, and the State of Alaska (Paug-Vik vs. LeResche and Paug-Vik vs. Martin); and

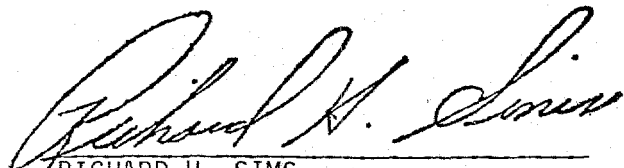
WHEREAS it is the State's duty to proceed with water right allocations in the order in which they are received; and

WHEREAS the failure to apply based on this information or misinformation may have the detrimental effect of placing an existing water user in a secondary position as a result of future valid application for appropriation; and

WHEREAS there may be ways to encourage the application for water rights without affecting the standing of the parties to litigation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Water Resources Board hereby requests that the Governor initiate discussions between the Department of Natural Resources, Department of Law and authorized representatives of the rural communities or Alaska Federation of Natives to explore the possibilities and provisions for these rural residents to apply and perfect their valid water rights while preserving all contested rights currently under litigation.

Respectively submitted this 28th day of December, 1979.



RICHARD H. SIMS
Chairman