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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
 INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

5012

April 27, 1956



Mr. Roger Ernst
 State Engineer
 422 State Office Bldg.
 Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Mr. Ernst:

Enclosed herein is a draft of a rather comprehensive bill which I have been asked to co-sponsor.

As a lifelong conservationist, I am genuinely interested in the preservation of outstanding scenic wonders and wild areas.

However, as a lifelong resident of the semi-arid West, I also am gravely concerned about the vital necessity of preserving our constantly diminishing rights to develop our new admittedly-limited water resources.

Will you please examine this proposed legislation and give me your reactions about the proposed reservations in your own state. Please advise me if these, and future reservations of the same type, as yet unspecified, can be made to accomplish tighter wilderness preservation, without endangering in any way present or potential water resource development vital to your state's growth and progress, and now presumably permissible in many of the reserved areas referred to in the draft bill.

Sincerely yours,

Arthur V. Watkins

Arthur V. Watkins
 U. S. Senator

2/1

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