

**The original documents are located in Box 14, folder “Environment (7)” of the James M. Cannon Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

### **Copyright Notice**

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

*200 mi limit*  
*[March 1976]*

D R A F T

Dear Van:

This is a follow-up to my other note in response to your letter of January 28 concerning the 200-mile interim fisheries legislation recently passed by both Houses.

The President has decided that the United States will seek in the U.N. Law of the Sea Conference -- which resumes in March--to settle all the problems of the sea, including fishing rights. The President has urged the Congress to delay final consideration of this legislation until the U.N. has had time to continue our efforts to negotiate a comprehensive law of the sea agreement.

Let me assure you that the President appreciates having your views on this issue.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,



The Honorable Lionel Van Deerlin  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 4, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CANNON

FROM: GEORGE W. HUMPHREYS *GW*

Based on your notes, the attached is my best recollection of the President's comments on the environment as stated to CEQ members on February 27, 1976.

Attachment



The President's comments:

"I am totally dedicated to trying to catch up. For over two centuries we were very neglectful. We didn't pay enough attention to the environment, and we have to act. I strongly feel we have got to act to catch up.

"And what we have accomplished so far in cleaner air and cleaner water is good evidence that we are catching up.

"So I strongly support the effort to clean up the environment. At the same time, I am concerned about the costs and the impact on the economy. We can't do it all tomorrow. We shouldn't try to leap-frog and get accomplished in six years what has been caused by decades of public neglect.

"But the best evidence of my position is what I have done to provide for the funding of major environmental expenditures by the Federal Government."

(The President then asked that OMB provide him with a list of the decisions he has made which affirm his support for a better environment.)





NOTES ON THE PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM  
CEQ Member Betty Willard to the President:

"What is your position on the environment?"

The President's response was:

*TWO CENTURIES* "I am totally dedicated to trying to catch up. For ~~100 years~~ *OVER* we ~~were~~ *SO FAR* very neglectful. We didn't pay enough attention to the environment, and we have to act. I strongly feel we have got to act to catch up.

"And what we have accomplished *SO FAR* in cleaner air and cleaner water is good evidence that we are catching up.

*the effort to clean up the environment.*  
"So I strongly support ~~EPA~~ *AT THE SAME TIME.*, but I am concerned about the costs and the impact on the economy. We can't do it all tomorrow. We shouldn't try to leap-frog and get accomplished in six years what has been caused by decades of public neglect.

"But the best evidence of my position is what I have done to provide for the funding of major environmental expenditures by the federal government."

(The President then asked that OMB provide him with a list of the decisions he has made which affirm his support for a better environment.)

President's Meeting with CEQ  
February 27, 1976 11:00 a.m.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

TO: GEORGE HUMPHREYS

FROM: JIM CANNON



George, how does this  
compare with your recollection?

*Phyllis -  
Have the  
computer show  
I responded -  
G*

*Jim 3-3-3  
that*

March 1, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CANNON

FROM: GEORGE W. HUMPHREYS

At the President's meeting with the CEQ members, Bettye Willard asked the President what his views were on the environment in general. You wanted to write up the statement for possible use in the future, and asked for my notes for your reference.

I know your notes were extensive and probably close to verbatim. Mine are not that good, but as closely as I can reconstruct it, his statement was as follows:

We have been polluting our environment for over two centuries. I fully supported our programs in the last few years to "catch up." I recognize we still have much to do to clean up the environment, and I will continue to support that effort.

I would not, however, consider myself a "far-out" environmentalist. I believe that we cannot repair all the damage done overnight. The environment must be cleaned up, but I think we must not do it at a pace nor at a cost that our economy cannot handle.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 4, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CANNON

FROM: GEORGE W. HUMPHREYS *GW*

Based on your notes, the attached is my best recollection of the President's comments on the environment as stated to CEQ members on February 27, 1976.

Attachment

The President's comments:

"I am totally dedicated to trying to catch up. For over two centuries we were very neglectful. We didn't pay enough attention to the environment, and we have to act. I strongly feel we have got to act to catch up.

"And what we have accomplished so far in cleaner air and cleaner water is good evidence that we are catching up.

"So I strongly support the effort to clean up the environment. At the same time, I am concerned about the costs and the impact on the economy. We can't do it all tomorrow. We shouldn't try to leap-frog and get accomplished in six years what has been caused by decades of public neglect.

"But the best evidence of my position is what I have done to provide for the funding of major environmental expenditures by the Federal Government."

(The President then asked that OMB provide him with a list of the decisions he has made which affirm his support for a better environment.)

FEBRUARY 27, 1976

## Office of the White House Press Secretary

---

THE WHITE HOUSE

TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

It is a measure of our progress as a Nation that today, in the 200th year of American Independence, we are in the midst of a dynamic movement to restore, protect and preserve our environment and, at the same time, make the most effective use of our natural resources -- with the objective of providing a better life for ourselves and for our children and grandchildren.

This society has come a long way since the time when the daily struggle with climate and wilderness dominated our ancestors lives, challenged their spirit and energies, and shaped attitudes that served so well to forge a new Nation. We have learned that our past progress was often achieved without adequate regard for the longer term consequences to our air, water and land. Some have concluded from our past experiences that certain national objectives -- such as a strong economy, an adequate supply of energy, and an improved environment -- are in conflict and we must choose among them. Others are concluding -- and I share their view -- that we can make good progress toward all these objectives if our goals are realistic, our resolve is firm, and our steps are deliberate.

The Sixth Annual Report of the Council on Environmental Quality which I am forwarding to the Congress surveys our environmental accomplishments and indicates that we have made much progress indeed.

The Council's summary of environmental conditions and trends describes the encouraging results of our efforts to clean up the air and water. We are beginning to bring our most chronic sources of water pollution under control, and we are improving the quality of some of our most heavily polluted waterways. We have improved air quality significantly in the United States during the past five years.

The progress we have made so far is in large measure a reflection of the investment the Nation has made in cleaning up the environment. In 1975 government and industry spent more than \$15 billion in capital and operating expenditures to meet the requirements of Federal pollution control legislation. The Federal Government alone has increased its pollution control outlays from \$751 million in 1970 to an estimated \$4.5 billion in the current fiscal year. Over the next ten years the Nation will spend more than \$22 billion per year to meet Federal pollution control requirements.

We can be proud of the progress we have made in improving the Nation's environmental quality. Yet, we must meet additional challenges over the next few years. We must improve our understanding of the effects of pollutants and of the

more

(OVER)

means and costs of reducing pollution. As we develop new energy sources and technologies we must assure that they meet environmental standards. We also must continue the job of cleaning up pollution from existing sources.

The Council has reviewed the environmental conditions of our coastal zone and on Federal public lands and describes the diverse purposes they serve and the variety of ways in which our people can use and enjoy them. Because of the competing demands upon these areas, we will face a continuing challenge in assuring their best uses and in providing protection of their environmental values.

International activities over the past year have provided a helpful perspective for understanding the global scope of many environmental issues. Our community of nations is beginning to come to grips with this reality and, through the United Nations Earthwatch Program, is making a major attempt to monitor environmental conditions and trends throughout the world.

Our experience and our growing knowledge about the scientific, technical and economic aspects of environmental effects and controls has given us a basis for considering "mid-course corrections" in existing environmental laws. The attention now being given in the Congress and the Administration to a review of the requirements of the Clean Air Act and the Water Pollution Control Act are important examples of this new level of awareness.

In these and other efforts, we must set our goals carefully, pursue them vigorously, and maintain the balance among our national objectives. This is essential if we are to enjoy the continued public support for our environmental objectives that is necessary to future progress.

We have made an excellent start. I am confident we shall continue in this vital area.

GERALD R. FORD

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
FEBRUARY 27, 1976

# # # #

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FEBRUARY 27, 1976

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

---

THE WHITE HOUSE

EXCHANGE OF REMARKS  
BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT  
AND

RUSSELL PETERSON  
CHAIRMAN  
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

THE OVAL OFFICE

12:04 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Good morning everybody.

Let me say to you, Mr. Chairman, and to your colleagues on the Council on Environmental Quality, that I appreciate very much the fine job that has been done and I am looking forward to an opportunity to read this and hopefully we can implement a good many of the recommendations, a good many of the suggestions that are included in here, and I thank you not only for the good job you have done but also the record that I think we have achieved in the last five years in trying to get real and very substantial progress in meeting the challenge of our deteriorating environment.

We have made a lot of progress. We have a long way to go but I think we can improve it, we can balance it appropriately with our needs for energy and our needs for the other requirements for a better America.

I thank you very much.

MR. PETERSON: Thank you.

I think that it shows here that we are making good headway in cleaning up the air and the water. We have a way to go, as you know, but I think we are underway to reach the goals we have set out to reach, and your letter in here, I think, well illustrates the kind of philosophy we need to reach the goal.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, keep the pressure on and we will make that kind of progress as we move ahead.

MR. PETERSON: Good.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

MR. PETERSON: Thank you.

END (AT 12:06 P.M. EST)



*Cannon memo*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 9, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR : GEORGE HUMPHREYS  
FROM : PAT MCKEE

You asked me to let you know when Jim Lynn's office responded to Mr. Cannon's attached memo of Feb. 27 regarding a list of Presidential decisions which would affirm his support for a better environment.

Attached is the list which arrived today.

Attachment



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT


OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

March 9, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR PAT MCKEE

FROM:

JIM JURA 

SUBJECT:

Presidential Decisions for a Better  
Environment

The attached fact sheet was prepared for the White House Research Group and delivered on February 27th. It lists the Federal environmental programs in Florida which affirm the President's support for a better environment.



## FACT SHEET ON SELECT FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

### FLORIDA

The Special Analysis on Federal Environmental Programs of the Budget of the U.S. Government indicates that there will be a 20% increase in FY 1976 Federal outlays over FY 1975 for environmental programs. The following is a select list of representative types of Federal environmental programs directly impacting Florida during the current year (FY 1976).

#### Construction Grants:

The FY 1976 allotment to Florida is approximately \$346 million to assist in the construction of sewage treatment facilities. This brings the total State allotment for Florida to \$692 million as of January 1, 1976. \$426 million has been obligated which leaves \$266 million still available.

#### Air Program Grants:

The FY 1976 allocation for State program resource assistance for the air control program grants is \$1.4 million. These funds provide resources to support State and local governments' activities in implementing air pollution control programs.

#### Water Quality Grants:

The FY 1976 allocation for water quality grants is \$1.3 million. These funds provide resources to support State and local governments' activities in implementing water supply programs.

#### Water Supply Grants:

The FY 1976 allocation for water supply grants is \$199,000. These funds provide resources to support State and local governments' activities in implementing water supply programs.

#### 208 Water Quality Management Planning Grants:

The FY 1976 allocation to Florida for water quality management planning is \$644,000. These resources assist State and local water quality planning activities.

#### Fish and Wildlife Programs

The FY 1976 for Florida for programs involved with wildlife funding refuges, damage control, fish hatcheries, and wildlife research approximately \$2 million.

### Federal Park-Environmental Programs

- ° Land acquisition is beginning for the Big Cypress National Preserve to assure adequate water supply for the Everglades.
- ° The Canaveral National Seashore was established in January 1975.
- ° Total funding for Federal parks in Florida in FY 1976 for operating development, and land acquisition is approximately \$18 million.
- ° Land and water conservation funding grants for recreational land acquisition and development for FY 1976 are approximately \$5 million.

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

- ° A major lab of the NOAA is located in Miami coordinating many of NOAA's efforts in environmental research and development.
- ° The National Hurricane Center is located in Miami on the campus of the University of Miami.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 27, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM LYNN

FROM: JIM CANNON *Jim*

In the meeting with the Council on Environmental Quality today, the President asked that OMB provide him with a list of Presidential decisions which affirm his support for a better environment. For example, he mentioned full funding for the water conservation program, \$15 million over six years for Big Cypress, \$3 million for Canaveral Beach, and \$1 million to complete the Everglades Project.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*Environment*  
*File*  
*Information*  
*Environment*  
*Sent*

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CANNON  
FROM: GEORGE W. HUMPHREYS

Attached is a copy of a first draft outline for the President's proposed speech to the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference on March 22.

Jim Cavanaugh sent this draft into the President last night (March 16).

cc:  
Jim Cavanaugh  
Art Quern



March 16, 1976



MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CAVANAUGH  
FROM: GEORGE W. HUMPHREYS  
SUBJECT: Proposed Outline for Environmental Speech

- We are today in the midst of a vital movement to restore, protect, and preserve our environment with the objective of providing a better life for ourselves and for our children and grandchildren.
- We have learned that our past progress was often achieved without adequate regard for the longer-term consequences to our air, water, and land. What was forgotten in the past became a fad in the Sixties, and a movement in the Seventies has now become a permanent part of our national priorities -- a commitment to environmental protection.
- Since the awakening of the late Sixties, we have made major strides toward correcting the Nation's environmental problems --
  - by creating new governmental institutions at the Federal, State and local level
  - by legislation and regulation
  - by investing public funds.
- Over recent years Federal efforts have concentrated on two major objectives:

- the control of pollution in order to prevent damage to human health and welfare, and
- the preservation of our natural heritage, including wildlife, wilderness, parks, historical landmarks, open space, rare and endangered species, and unique ecosystems.

- Since 1970 control of pollution has received tremendous attention:

- EPA established
- basic laws passed to control:

air pollution  
water pollution  
ocean dumping  
noise  
radiation  
pesticides



- the Federal Government alone has funded \$     billion in grants for wastewater treatment facilities

- We are beginning to make progress in cleaning up our air and water:

- air quality in the United States has significantly improved during the past five years
- Progress has been made in cleaning up our most heavily polluted waterways, and we are just beginning to see the benefits of recent abatement actions through nationwide monitoring data.

- In recent years we have also taken actions to preserve our natural heritage:

- established NOAA
- passed legislation to protect endangered species and marine mammals
- created new national parks and monuments



-- spent \$ \_\_\_\_\_ million in Federal funds to assist State and local governments to acquire open space

-- preserved historic areas and buildings

• As President, I have:

-- Signed wetlands loan advance

-- Designated wilderness areas amounting to \_\_\_\_\_ acres and \_\_\_\_\_ miles of wild and scenic rivers

-- Proposed Alaska Conservation Act dedicating 80 million acres to conservation purposes

-- Provided for full funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund

-- Increased appropriations for National Park Service maintenance and operations

-- Provided 400 more park rangers and other National Park Service employees

-- Proposed a 38 percent increase in funding for implementation of the Safe Drinking Water Act

• The record is impressive and we should be proud of it; the environmental movement is here to stay; it has generated a tremendous amount of activity, created major new institutions, and is a permanent part of society.

• We still have a lot to do.

• First, we must close the gap in control of toxic pollutants:

-- I support the enactment of toxic substance legislation that would enable EPA to control the introduction of toxic substances into the environment without placing unnecessary or burdensome requirements on the chemical industry



- Second, we must rededicate ourselves to the concept that our public lands are held in trust for all Americans:

- We must use our land, water, and living resources in ways that recognize all their values and that respects the Federal Government's responsibility to future generations
- Wildlife is key among these values: native species are living parts of our history and culture

- Third, we need to be sure that we are pursuing our environmental goals efficiently. We must continue our efforts to catch up, but we must ensure that these efforts proceed at a pace that can be sustained by the economy:

- We will have to make sure that every dollar we spend on improving environmental quality is being spent in a way in which it is most effective, and that the benefits we get are at least worth the amount that we are spending.
- We have shifted a bit from an all-out effort to clean up the air and water in five years, after we destroyed it for about 100 years. We are going to probably stretch out some of these programs. You just can't overcome 100 years of neglect in a period of five years.
- In recommending "mid-course corrections" to the Congress, the National Water Commission says that the current law requiring tightening of standards from 1977 to 1983 would cost \$ — billion with little change in water quality.
- In the future, we will have to make sure that every dollar we spend on improving environmental quality is being spent in a way in which it is most effective, and that the benefits we get are at least worth the amount that we are spending.



I can assure you from this Administration's point of view we are going to continue to have a sound, constructive, broad gauge environmental program. There may be some stretching out for a minimum period time, I can assure you, but we are not going to abandon the vital goals which will lead to a cleaner, healthier environment for all Americans.



**MEMORANDUM  
OF CALL**

TO:

☒ YOU WERE CALLED BY—

☐ YOU WERE VISITED BY—

OF (Organization)

☐ PLEASE CALL —→

PHONE NO.  
CODE/EXT.

3160

☐ WILL CALL AGAIN

☐ IS WAITING TO SEE YOU

☐ RETURNED YOUR CALL

☐ WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

Please call  
3/18/76



RECEIVED BY

DATE

TIME

Jm

3/17

1:11

STANDARD FORM 63

REVISED AUGUST 1967

GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

GPO : 1969-0-43-16 30341-1 282-880

63-108

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 27, 1976

*Check w/ O'Neill  
Wed.  
Called J. Gura  
3/4/76 - pm*

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM LYNN

FROM: JIM CANNON *J. Cannon*

In the meeting with the Council on Environmental Quality today, the President asked that OMB provide him with a list of Presidential decisions which affirm his support for a better environment. For example, he mentioned full funding for the water conservation program, \$15 million over six years for Big Cypress, \$3 million for Canaveral Beach, and \$1 million to complete the Everglades Project.





Environment?

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

REQUEST

March 23, 1976



MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT  
FROM: JIM CANNON *signed by Cavanaugh*  
SUBJECT: EPA CONSTRUCTION GRANT PROGRAM

We have looked into the question raised with you on March 18 by some members of Congress about the possibility that EPA is slowing down waste treatment grant applications so that money is not moving.

The answer is that EPA definitely has not slowed up the flow of funds. In fact, grant awards have averaged \$250 million per month in the first eight months of FY 1976 compared to an average of \$153 million per month for the first eight months of FY 1975. Russell Train is continuing to press his headquarters and field staffs to expedite the handling of applications, an effort he launched on March 10, 1975.

There are several factors that may have given the impression of a slow down in funding. These factors are discussed in the paper at Tab A. Russ Train's directive of March 10, 1975 is attached at Tab B.

On a related topic, a problem is developing concerning progress payments for ongoing construction. EPA will run out of cash to liquidate contract authority about April 15 and a request for a supplemental of \$300 million was sent to Congress on March 8. The Congressional Committees have been wanting to include this request in a consolidated supplemental that would be ready about May 1. EPA has urged the committees to move on the EPA request earlier to avoid adverse public reaction from having to stop payments.

We will follow up with Max Friedersdorf and Russ Train on the latter issue.

Attachment

## EPA Construction Grant Application Process

EPA is not slowing down the grant application process.

- Grant awards averaged \$250 million per month for the first eight months of FY 1976 compared to an average of \$153 million per month for the first eight months of FY 1975.
- Administrator Train is continuing to press the Headquarters and Regional staffs to expedite the handling of applications.

There are a number of factors that could give the impression that there is a slowdown.

- The House Public Works Committee recently asked EPA for a list of the applications in process but not awarded. This list totaled about \$0.5 billion a year ago, and totals about \$1 billion now. At first glance, one could conclude that the backlog is building up because the processing is slowing down. This is not the case. The ratio of the backlog to the average monthly award rate is roughly the same this year as last year.
- The 1976 budget estimated \$5.2 billion obligations (awards) for 1976. The 1977 budget shows \$4.5 billion for 1976. However, this change was due to normal difficulties in a large public works program, and was in spite of an intensive effort to speed up the process.
- The \$5.2 billion was divided among the regions on a quota or target basis. The lower estimate of \$4.5 billion looks like the target is being reduced when in fact it is all that can be achieved. The budget estimate of \$4.5 billion does not appear to be a constraint. Through February, obligations total \$2 billion.
- Although the 1977 budget estimates 1977 obligations to be \$6.1 billion, the fact that the budget contains no new budget authority for the program could be misconstrued to mean that a phaseout or slowdown is intended. The answer to this is that there is plenty of money available for 1977 and no new money will be needed until 1978.



- Without new budget authority in 1977 some States will not have money for new awards.
  - . We addressed this issue in the 1977 budget decision process. At that time EPA was estimating that 22 States would run out. That estimate is now down to 12 States.
  - . Some of these States, however, are making awards but not getting started on construction.
  - . Nationwide, 23% of the funds awarded have not been put under construction.
- The possibility of a grant moratorium which was considered in the 1977 budget deliberations to hold down outlays probably leaked out. Although the moratorium plan was dropped, there probably are a lot of people who suspect the idea and the intent are still alive.
- The Administration's legislative reform package for this program does not include a firm recommendation for future funding levels, although it does estimate that the cost would be about \$48 billion in addition to the \$18 billion already available. At the same time, it does reduce the total Federal commitment, which could be interpreted as an intent to slow down the process.
- EPA tells us that States in Regions 10 and 4 may be trying to stretch out their money until the level of new funding is firmed up. If so, this is a State decision and not an EPA policy.
- In the 1977 budget deliberations Administrator Train agreed to manage the program in such a way as to meet a 1978 outlay target of \$4.6 billion. So far it has not been necessary to take any management steps of this sort, but word of the agreement may have leaked out.

On a related topic, a problem is developing as far as construction progress payments are concerned. EPA will run out of cash to liquidate contract authority about April 15. The Administration sent up a supplemental for \$300 million on March 8. If the supplemental is delayed until May 1 or later for inclusion in a consolidated supplemental package as the Congressional Committees would prefer, there will be some adverse reaction when the payments stop after April 15.





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

MAR 10 1975

MEMORANDUM TO REGIONAL ADMINISTRATORS

THE ADMINISTRATOR

SUBJECT : GETTING THE CONSTRUCTION GRANTS  
PROGRAM MOVING

I have watched our performance in the Construction Grants Program with growing concern over the past few months. It is clear to me that we must act quickly to get the program moving. Four factors have led me to this conclusion:

- ~~The report of the Construction Grants~~  
Review Group which indicated that cost-effectiveness, fiscal integrity, and environmental considerations should be upgraded;
- o The Supreme Court decision which released \$5 billion in additional funds for the program;
- o The fact that our national monthly obligation rate is far below what I expect it to be (see attached) and that projects once obligated are not being constructed expeditiously;
- o Our performance in the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements.

This memo outlines the action plan I have adopted to get the Construction Grants Program moving.

Accountability

The National Program Manager for this program is Jack Rhett, who reports to me via Jim Agee. Jack coordinates all construction grants matters at Headquarters, supported by the other offices. You Regional Administrators, in turn, are directly and personally responsible to me for upgrading the performance of the program in your regions. I expect results.

Our goal in upgrading performance must be not only to increase dramatically and permanently the obligation rates, but also to enhance the cost-effectiveness and environmental soundness of the projects, while protecting against fraud and other irregularities.

### Obligation Quotas

I have directed that Jack Rhett, as National Program Manager, establish monthly minimum obligation quotas for each region for the remainder of the fiscal year. The quota system will continue into FY 76 if that is necessary. I expect you to cooperate with Jack in this effort, and I expect Jack to report to me periodically on our progress. I have also asked him to review selected projects to ensure that cost-effectiveness and environmental analyses are adequate.

### Resources

I recognize that the resources currently available to you are not sufficient over the long run to ensure that we accomplish all of the objectives of this program. I have, therefore, requested from the Director of OMB another significant increase in EPA positions for the Construction Grants Program. I will followup this request with personal visits to Mr. Lynn and to the President, if that becomes necessary.

In the meantime, I remind you that my memo of February 21 regarding the Regional Guidance and the Intermedia Priorities Ranking gives you authority to reallocate resources from lower priority national objectives to the highest priority objectives, including the Construction Grants Program. I expect you to reallocate as necessary.

### Administrator's Special Task Force

I have directed Jim Agee and Jack Rhett, with the assistance of Al Alm, to establish the Administrator's Special Construction Grants Task Force. The Task Force will visit every region on my behalf to review current administrative practices and recommend changes which will keep the program moving. The Task Force will report to me by May 31, 1975.

### Don't Wait for the Task Force

I realize that no Task Force is going to solve all of the national or specific regional problems in such a short time frame. To help get the program moving right now, I strongly urge you adopt the single project manager approach for all projects. This "cradle to grave" approach -- which begins at the pre-Step I application phase and carries through to complete construction -- would ensure that the applicant, the



consultants, the States, the Regional Administrator, and the National Program Manager know exactly who in EPA is accountable for the successful completion of every project.

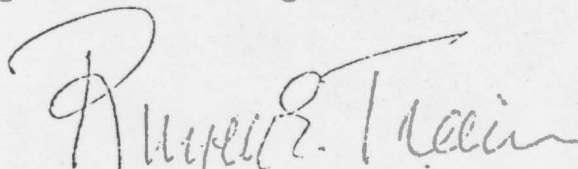
I further recommend that you combine the project manager approach with a State-orientation so that one project manager and one State team are responsible for all of the applications for all projects for all Steps from the several States in your region. The plain fact is that we are not going to get this program moving unless more of you and your staffs get out of the regional offices and into the States and communities to ensure that all of the affected people understand what is required by the Title II regulations.

#### Followup RA's Meeting

The next RA's meeting will deal with the Construction Grants Program. I expect all of the RA's and DRA's to attend. The morning of the first day will be devoted to reports from you on the steps taken to get this program moving in your region. John and I will want to know which Governors and Mayors you have talked to, and what you've done about their problems. John and I will also want to know what steps you've taken to delegate important responsibilities for parts of this program to the States. The afternoon of the first day will be devoted to a meeting between us and a small group of consultants, contractors, manufacturers, and union representatives to review the results of the meetings held with them in each region over the past months. I want to know what their problems are, and what we plan to do about them.

#### Action

I will be calling each of you and visiting some of you in the very near future to follow-up on this memo. Nothing but our best effort will get this program moving. Let's do it right.

  
Russell E. Train

cc: Assistant Administrators  
Office Directors  
Deputy Assistant Administrators



PL 92-500 CONTRACT FUNDS FOR FY 74 and 75

(in billions of dollars)

	<u>FY 74 Funds</u>	<u>FY 75 Funds</u>	<u>Total FY 74 and FY 75</u>
Amount Available as of 30 Jun 74	2.10	3.92	6.02
Amount Obligated as of 28 Feb 75	1.00	0.25	1.25
Amount Available as of 28 Feb 75	1.10 *	3.67	4.77
Average FY 75 Monthly Obligation Rate thru 28 Feb 75	0.125	0.031	0.156**

\*The \$1.1 billion must be obligated by 30 Jun 75 or it will be reallocated.


\*\*The Administrator's goal is \$500 million per month from now on.

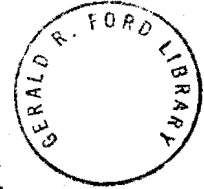
[April 1976?] 455

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JIM CANNON   
SUBJECT: Report from the Citizens' Advisory  
Committee on Environmental Quality



The purpose of this memo is to seek your signature on a letter of response to the Citizens' Advisory Committee on Environmental Quality.

Background

You have received two reports from the Citizens' Advisory Committee on Environmental Quality (Henry Diamond, Chairman) (Tab A.) The Committee is composed of fifteen members, appointed by you, and includes Governor Tom McCall, Laurance Rockefeller, and other distinguished citizens with conservation and environmental concerns.

The reports highlight several points of environmental concern, most important of which are:

1. Lack of Federal emphasis on energy conservation.
2. Possible weakening of pesticide control regulation.
3. Congressional attempts to weaken the Flood Plain Insurance Program

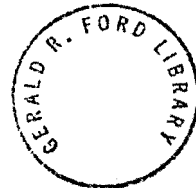
The report calls your attention to Laurence Rockefeller's recent article in the Reader's Digest entitled, "The Case for a Simpler Life Style", (Tab B) and also informs you of the new Committee project designed to encourage and foster more paper conservation and recycling.

Domestic Council staff and I have worked closely with the Committee in the areas of concern to them, and they

are comfortable with their ability to be heard at the White House.

Recommendation

CEQ, EPA, Max Friedersdorf, Counsel's Office (Kilberg), OMB and I recommend approval of the proposed letter which has been cleared by Bob Hartman. (Tab C).





200-Mile Limit

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APRIL 13, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

-----

THE WHITE HOUSE

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I am today signing a bill which provides a comprehensive domestic and international program for the conservation and management of our fisheries.

The extension of our jurisdiction to 200 miles will enable us to protect and conserve the valuable fisheries off our coasts. It is indeed unfortunate that the slow pace of the negotiations of the United Nations Law of the Sea Conference has mandated our course of action here today. However, the foreign overfishing off our coasts cannot be allowed to continue without resolution.

The need for a timely and successful Law of the Sea Conference is even more pressing today than ever before. I have directed our negotiators to make every effort, consistent with our basic interests, to conclude the substantive negotiations this year. The bill I sign today is generally consistent with the consensus emerging at the Conference. It is increasingly apparent that a failure to reach substantive agreement this year will move the world community inevitably toward disorder respecting competing use of the oceans. In the absence of a timely treaty, no nation can be assured that its paramount interest in the oceans will be protected.

Some specific aspects of this legislation require comment. I supported this legislation on the condition that the effective date of the legislation would be delayed so that the Law of the Sea Conference could complete its work and to permit sufficient time for a proper transition.

The tasks of continuing our negotiating efforts at the Law of the Sea Conference and at the same time establishing new fishery plans, issuing hundreds of new fishing permits and negotiating specific fishery agreements with foreign governments will require substantial resources in excess of those presently allocated to international fisheries affairs. The Departments of State, Commerce, and Transportation must do their best to implement the Act fully. Since available resources are finite, however, it is possible that full implementation may take more time than is provided in the Act.

I am concerned about our ability to fulfill the tasks in the time and manner provided in the Act. I am particularly anxious that no action be taken which would compromise our commitment to protect the freedom of navigation and the welfare of our distant water fisheries. Surely we would not wish to see the United States engaged in international disputes because of an absence of needed flexibility.

Additionally, I am concerned about four specific problem areas which are raised by this legislation:

more



First, absent affirmative action, the subject bill could raise serious impediments for the United States in meeting its obligations under existing treaty and agreement obligations;

Second, the bill contemplates unilateral enforcement of a prohibition on foreign fishing for native anadromous species, such as salmon, seaward of the 200-mile zone. Enforcement of such a provision, absent bilateral or multilateral agreement, would be contrary to the sound precepts of international jurisprudence;

Third, the enforcement provisions of H.R. 200 dealing with the seizure of unauthorized fishing vessels, lack adequate assurances of reciprocity in keeping with the tenets of international law; and

Fourth, the measure purports to encroach upon the exclusive province of the Executive relative to matters under international negotiations.

Although these matters are of major importance, I am hopeful they can be resolved by responsible administrative action and, if necessary, by curative legislation. Accordingly, I am instructing the Secretary of State to lead Administration efforts toward their effective resolution.

GERALD R. FORD

# # #





THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 26, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JIM CANNON *Jani*  
SUBJECT: Status Report: Phosphate Mining in  
Central Florida



You asked for a report on the status of the CEQ investigation of the phosphate mining problem in Central Florida.

Attached is a letter from Chairman Russell Peterson to you on the situation.

In brief, Russ reports:

1. The problem is being studied by an inter-agency team led by EPA, and including CEQ, Interior, Agriculture, and the Corps of Engineers.
2. An advisory group of local and state officials and representatives of industry and environmental groups has been set up to work with the inter-agency team.
3. There will be no moratorium on the current mining activities during the period of the study.

It is my understanding that the preparation of the impact statement will take from 12-15 months.

Attachment

cc: Dick Cheney  
Ron Nessen

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 26, 1976

TO: JIM CANNON

FROM: GEORGE HUMPHREYS

Attached is the report from Russ Peterson concerning the phosphate mining in Florida.

Attachment.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

722 JACKSON PLACE, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006

April 23, 1976

Dear Mr. President:

At your request, the Council on Environmental Quality has reviewed the environmental issues surrounding the current and projected phosphate development in central Florida. I met personally with Dave Lindsay, who first brought the matter to your attention, and my staff has visited the central Florida area.

Over the past several weeks, together with officials of the Department of the Interior, Environmental Protection Agency, Corps of Engineers, and the Department of Agriculture, we have held a series of discussions with representatives of the State of Florida, the Counties of Sarasota and Manatee, the City of Sarasota, and the phosphate industry to hear their views and concerns.

On the basis of these meetings, and from our other discussions with the federal agencies, we have learned that there is, and will continue to be, considerable direct federal involvement in the phosphate activity of central Florida. Approximately eight new phosphate mining operations are now being proposed or contemplated that will, over the next several years, require permits from the Corps of Engineers and/or the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Most, if not all of these federal actions will have potentially significant environmental impacts in central Florida, not only in the counties in which phosphate mining will take place, but also in adjacent jurisdictions outside the mining area. The major potential regional environmental impacts are air and water pollution, diminished groundwater supplies, and radiation from the mined material. The cumulative effect of these impacts on the central Florida region has not been adequately evaluated, although federal and state agencies are conducting, or planning, a number of studies on various specific impacts.

We have concluded, therefore, that the most useful and manageable way to analyze the cumulative, interrelated impacts of the present and proposed phosphate development in central Florida is through the environmental impact statement process. Accordingly, we have been working with



federal agencies on a detailed approach to a comprehensive regional impact statement that will rely on new information as well as on existing studies of phosphate development in central Florida. EPA Region IV, headquartered in Atlanta, has agreed to take the lead in preparing the statement for all federal agencies. It will work closely with a steering committee made up of representatives from EPA, the Corps of Engineers, and the Departments of Agriculture and Interior. The steering committee will be chaired by the Council on Environmental Quality, and advisors to the committee will include representatives from the State of Florida, local governments, the phosphate industry, and Florida environmental groups.

This environmental analyses process will not establish any moratorium on existing phosphate mining in the central Florida region. All mining already approved will also continue. Any local and state mining approval processes can also continue and will not be legally delayed by the federal study.

Consistent with our own policy we shall insure that the impact statement addresses the major federal actions and the reasonable policy alternatives available in the future. We shall make every possible effort to see that the document produced will assist the federal planning and decision-making process and that it will provide members of the public with the best possible information on matters of concern to them.

Respectfully,



Russell W. Peterson  
Chairman

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500



CC: Humphreys  
Quern  
Cavanaugh

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 22, 1976

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JIM CANNON

FROM:

JIM CONNOR *JEC*

SUBJECT:

Letter from David Breed Lindsay

The attached letter was returned in the President's outbox with the following notation:

"Status of CEQ investigation? "

Please follow-up with appropriate action.

cc: Dick Cheney

Attachment:

April 16, 1976 letter from  
David Breed Lindsay



1976 APR 22 PM 5 30

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

4/19/76

NOTE FOR:

Jim Connor.

FROM

: RON NESSEN

The President  
probably should  
read this.

RHN



THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

DAVID BREED LINDSAY

16 April 1976

Dear Mr. President,

Your thoughtfulness in sending me the set of cuff links with the Presidential seal is deeply appreciated. Together with the inscribed and signed photographs taken during our meeting in Sarasota, the cuff links will become heirlooms of the Lindsay family.

It was a particular pleasure to have the opportunity of attending church with you and Mrs. Ford, and the occasion was made even more memorable for me by the surprised looks on the faces of my youngest son, Edward, who was singing in the choir, and my two grandsons, David and Stewart, who were in the congregation.

In my 28 years as editor of the Sarasota Herald-Tribune I have never seen more appreciation of an official act than has been evidenced by the people of this area for your decision to order the Council on Environmental Quality to investigate the need for an interdisciplinary study of the effects of phosphate strip mining and phosphoric acid/uranium processing on the Florida West Coast.

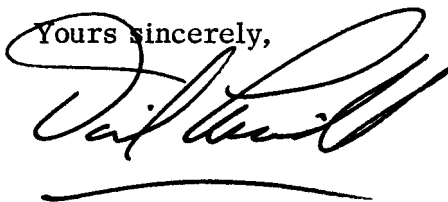
I met with Governor Peterson and his staff immediately after the private meeting with you and Secretary Rumsfeld, and was delighted at their responsiveness and professional concern.

I am sure I can speak for the people in our circulation area when I express my respect and appreciation for your immediate appraisal and action on this issue of regional health and safety, and of national strategic consequence.

I too shall certainly look forward, as you said in your letter, to a future meeting in Sarasota or on the Monterey Peninsula.

With warmest personal regards and with good wishes for continued Campaign '76 success.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'David Lindsay', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 13, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM LYNN

FROM: JACK MARSH

Please note the attached in reference to an EPA funding problem in New Orleans.

You will note Jim Cannon made some preliminary inquiries and suggestions. It might be helpful if the three of us could touch base.

I suggest we might try this following the senior staff meeting tomorrow morning.

Many thanks.

✓ cc: Jim Cannon





THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 13, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JACK MARSH  
FROM: JIM CANNON *Jm*  
SUBJECT: EPA Funding Problems/New Orleans

There is a short-term problem in New Orleans, but not of the magnitude described by Mr. Putfark. OMB is working on the solution and plans to present a decision paper to the President by the middle of next week.

OMB contends that EPA did not manage this year's outlays at a rate Train had agreed to with the President. The rate of outlays in the New Orleans area exceeded the projections this year, and the local people are making sure the proper back-fires are started to ensure continuation of the funding at the higher rate. OMB staff recognizes that the funds must be found, and they are doing that now, both for the New Orleans problem and the national problem.

I suggest we talk with Jim Lynn to be sure the President's options are presented quickly.



NOTE: Mr. Marsh talked with Jim Cannon re this, Thurs., May 13.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 13, 1976

Mr. Marsh:

Mr. Ray PUTFARK, Construction Industry Association of New Orleans, Inc., called to alert you to a possible problem and something that has already hit the newspapers in the New Orleans area.

It seems EPA has started a number of construction projects, which employ thousands of people in the New Orleans area. They are short of funds, \$21 Million short, and if EPA doesn't receive these funds, the projects will have to be halted.

Mr. Putfark said it has been reported EPA is short \$150 million around the country.

in

He said this has already been in the newspapers and he feels the President will be hurt by continued press stories about the shortage and the laying off of thousands of people. He said he feels OMB could find some funds to continue these projects and avoid the layoffs.

~~He would like you to call him today concerning this.~~ I tried to explain about your schedule and suggest someone else. He said he met you at some time in the past.

~~Telephone Number (504) 524-8651~~

Donna



*Environment*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 13, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JACK MARSH  
FROM: JIM CANNON *JC*  
SUBJECT: EPA Funding Problems/New Orleans

There is a short-term problem in New Orleans, but not of the magnitude described by Mr. Putfark. OMB is working on the solution and plans to present a decision paper to the President by the middle of next week.

OMB contends that EPA did not manage this year's outlays at a rate Train had agreed to with the President. The rate of outlays in the New Orleans area exceeded the projections this year, and the local people are making sure the proper back-fires are started to ensure continuation of the funding at the higher rate. OMB staff recognizes that the funds must be found, and they are doing that now, both for the New Orleans problem and the national problem.

I suggest we talk with Jim Lynn to be sure the President's options are presented quickly.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

REQUEST

May 13, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR JIM CANNON

FROM: GEORGE W. HUMPHREYS *gmh*  
SUBJECT: EPA Funding Problems--  
New Orleans

Attached is a draft for Marsh on the New Orleans problem. You may want to consider having Lynn offer a statement of reassurance, such as, "The President has directed that we do everything necessary to ensure continuation.... etc."

Attachment



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 13, 1976

Mr. Marsh:

Mr. Ray PUTFARK, Construction Industry Association of New Orleans, Inc., called to alert you to a possible problem and something that has already hit the newspapers in the New Orleans area.

It seems EPA has started a number of construction projects, which employ thousands of people in the New Orleans area. They are short of funds, \$21 Million short, and if EPA doesn't receive these funds, the projects will have to be halted.

Mr. Putfark said it has been reported EPA is short \$150 million around the country.

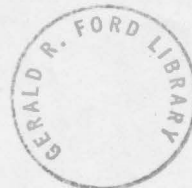
in

He said this has already been in the newspapers and he feels the President will be hurt by continued press stories about the shortage and the laying off of thousands of people. He said he feels OMB could find some funds to continue these projects and avoid the layoffs.

~~He would like you to call him today concerning this.~~ I tried to explain about your schedule and suggest someone else. He said he met you at some time in the past.

~~Telephone Number (504) 524-8651~~

Donna



5/13/76

10:15 a.m.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON



Jim,

Could you

have your people

get into this...

Thanks. Josh