

munities for water for municipal and industrial growth purposes should have a high priority in the State's thinking. I would think the State would want to have a program that is wise enough and broad gaged enough that soon communities could obtain the growth water they need.

The exchange principle probably will come into play with regard to that.

I think every one ought to understand this does not answer all the questions. It lays the framework for the right solutions if the people in Arizona have enough statesmanship to produce them.

Mr. STEIGER. I know the Secretary recalls from his own period at which time he represented these same counties the concern within the counties that their needs will not be met. It has always been my feeling that this language was meant as a backup protection for these people in the event of a place to appeal for justice, as it were, if in the intrastate negotiations, they felt they were being slighted. Is that your feeling?

Secretary UDALL. I think this gives as much protection as can be given in legislation of this kind, because we are talking about the future; we do not know who is going to need what quantity, when and so on, but this lays the framework and opens the door to solutions. The Arizona officials and the Arizona Congressmen and local interests can sit down and work out solutions and I am confident that they will do so.

Mr. STEIGER. It is a credit to you and I think worthy of note in the record here that the people in these areas do feel comfortable with you as the Secretary. They also recognize that there is no possibility of your remaining as Secretary for an eternity. I wonder if, in your opinion, with all the previous records that have been made on this matter and the record that has been made during these hearings, if you feel that it will be of sufficient strength to guide future Secretaries as to their role in this particular matter?

Secretary UDALL. I have already stayed longer in the job than, I guess, three others, at this point. I think that everyone ought to realize that Secretaries come and go and language has to be written so that it is clear and spells out responsibilities and how they are to be discharged.

In terms of the situation and in terms of what might be done with legislation of this kind to take care of this problem, I believe this is as clear a statement as can be made. It provides protection and guidance. I feel confident that for whomever is Secretary, whenever these problems come up, and they will come up over a period of many years, this gives him the guidance and the direction that he would need.

But he alone is not going to make all decisions. He is going to make contracts and he is going to play a role in the decision making. The State people under our water rights system are also going to play a major role and a lot of the responsibility is going to belong right in the State.

Mr. UDALL. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. STEIGER. Yes.

Mr. UDALL. I know there is a certain restlessness in some northern Arizona counties. As one who also represented those counties for a time, I want to make it clear it is my judgment as a member of the