

deserve.

The stated purpose of such a transfer would be to provide better coordination of competing policies as to use, for example, of water resources. In practice, the proposed coordination would tend to lead to resolution of conflicts between competing views at a level below and obscured from public scrutiny and knowledge. In many instances, such conflicts are too important to be settled without full public participation. Instead of suppressing them by coordination among minor officials, they should be exposed for informed and vigorous public review and debate. In this respect, therefore, The American Waterways Operators, Inc., is concerned that, under the proposed organization, the interest of the shipping public in water resource improvements for navigation be given adequate consideration in favor of all competing interests.

Coordination of water resources policy at a level at which competing views will not be lost to public sight can, on the other hand, be accomplished through the use of the organization recently established by the Congress for this very purpose—the Water Resources Council, established by the Act of July 2, 1965, after many years of consideration and effort. The Council should be given the opportunity to demonstrate what it can do before the authority and responsibility assignment to it are withdrawn.

In the debate which has taken place on S. 886, the viewpoint has been expressed that the Water Resources Council cannot be other than a weak arrangement because it is a committee rather than an individual and because it is made up of representatives of various departments of government. Under

By copy of this letter a copy of this Resolution will be furnished to the press.

Sincerely,

SWEP T. DAVIS,
Executive Director-Secretary.

RESOLUTION OF THE PAT HARRISON WATERWAY DISTRICT, OCTOBER 26, 1967

Whereas the Corps of Engineers has at all times manifested a great interest in promoting sanitary water supply and the preservation, conservation, storage and regulation of the waters of the Pascagoula River Basin for domestic, municipal and recreational uses, and is presently engaged in said work and interest for the basin to insure adequate flood control thereof; and

Whereas the United States Army Corps of Engineers is now operating under the Civil Works Program of the Department of the Army to achieve the foregoing goals of preservation, conservation, storage and regulation of the waters of the Pascagoula River Basin for domestic, municipal and recreational uses; and

Whereas the Corps of Engineers has an enviable record for safe and adequate