

1 provisions of the Water Resources Planning Act (79
2 Stat. 244), as amended.

3 SEC. 3 (a) The Secretary is authorized and directed to
4 conduct preliminary investigations and to explore potential
5 cooperative agreements with non-Federal governmental
6 entities and utilities in order to develop recommendations for
7 Federal participation in the construction, operation, and
8 maintenance of prototype plants utilizing desalting tech-
9 nologies for the production of water for consumptive use.

10 (b) The Secretary is authorized and directed to report
11 to the President and to the Congress, not later than one year
12 after the date of this Act, his recommendation as to the best
13 opportunity for the early construction of a large-scale proto-
14 type desalting plant. In making his selection the Secretary
15 shall consider the following:

16 (i) plant size and process type best suited, within
17 the presently available technology, to demonstrate the
18 practicability of construction and operation of a large-
19 scale plant for water supply on a reliable basis and best
20 suited to provide information on the management prob-
21 lems and economics of such operations;

22 (ii) availability of cooperating entity or entities
23 willing and capable of entering into agreements and
24 contracts providing a market for water and an operat-
25 ing agency for the plants;