

\$28,573,000 for FY 1971. Support of this effort with public funds has been clearly established as it has in other "high technology" areas such as atomic energy (estimated investment for commercial technology \$2 billion through 1971) and space technology (estimated investment \$34 billion through 1971). In desalting as well as in those fields, expenditure of public monies has resulted in far more rapid technological development than might otherwise have been the case.

These "high technology" fields are also high in risk, yet they have had advantageous payoff for the Nation when the research and development phase is over. The uncertainties in the R&D phase, the magnitude of the investment required and the time lapse between investment and return has meant that industry has turned to other opportunities that offer more certain and more immediate return on their investment. Without public funds to accelerate development at this stage of development of the technology of economically producing and using desalted water, it is certain that economical sources of desalted