

Chairman Udall has already noted the provision of the Flood Control Act of 1936 which initiated explicit benefit-cost analysis of water resource projects, the many years of painstaking development, testing and use of evaluation standards that then ensued, and the call by President Kennedy in October 1961 for an "up-to-date set of uniform standards" that resulted in Senate Document 97, published in May 1962.

#### SENATE DOCUMENT 97, 87TH CONGRESS

The Council's proposed new formula for the determination of discount rates, published last Friday, July 26, would become, in effect, an amendment to Senate Document 97. Thus it is important to note, first, its full title, what the document is, and its major provisions.

Its formal title is "Policies, Standards, and Procedures in the Formulation, Evaluation, and Review of Plans for Use and Development of Water and Related Land Resources." With this long title, quite understandably, "Senate Document 97" has become its popular title.

It is an executive branch document, in the nature of an interdepartmental agreement approved by the President, that was published by the Senate. It was never adopted by the Senate.

As of the day of adoption its provisions have governed, insofar as they are consistent with law and other applicable regulations, all formulation, evaluation and review of water and related land resource plans by the Departments of the Army, Agriculture, the Interior and Health, Education, and Welfare; and, by his letter of approval, President Kennedy made these provisions applicable to the Bureau of the Budget in its review of projects and programs.

"The basic objective in the formulation of plans," the document states, "is to provide the best use, or combination of uses, of water and related land resources to meet all foreseeable short- and long-term needs." Full consideration is to be given to each of the following sub-objectives "and reasoned choices made between them when they conflict":

*Development* of water and related land resources, as part of national economic development, for:

- Domestic, municipal, industrial, and agricultural water supplies
- Water quality
- Water transportation
- Hydroelectric power
- Flood control
- Land stabilization
- Drainage
- Watershed protection and management
- Recreation and fish and wildlife enhancement; and
- Any other related project development purpose;

*Preservation* of water and related land resources, as a manifestation of proper stewardship in the long-term interest of the Nation's natural bounty, for:

- Protection and rehabilitation of resources to insure availability for their best use when needed.
- Open space, green space, and wild areas of rivers, lakes, beaches, and mountains.