April 18, 1955

Honorable Dennis Chavez
Chairman
Public Works Committee
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dennis:

I am writing to you, as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Public Works, to request Committee approval of a resolution authorizing the Corps of Engineers to review a report on the Smokes Creek Project in my state. The need for such a review leading to subsequent flood control construction has been made apparent to me by developments affecting the City of Lackawanna, New York, through which Smokes Creek flows.

Since 1953 two severe floods have been experienced by the people of Lackawanna. The most recent occurred on March 1st of this year and caused an estimated damage of over $1 million. On March 16, 1952, a report on Smokes Creek was submitted to Congress. Since that time, and particularly in the past few years, flood dangers resulting from the condition of Smokes Creek have increased considerably and have, as I have said, culminated in two serious floods in the past two years.

Therefore, it seems obvious that a resurvey of this project is required in order to determine the advisability of making improvements for flood control on Smokes Creek. I earnestly hope that your Committee will approve a resolution of this nature in the near future.

With kind personal regards,

Very sincerely yours,

P. S. I shall be talking to you in person about this within the next few days. I am very eager that something be done with this.