Honorable Herbert H. Lehman
United States Senate

Dear Senator:

Attached is a copy of a bill Senator Magnuson and I intend to sponsor, amending the Federal Power Act to protect the public interest in the conservation and utilization of the water power resources of the nation.

The bill places restrictions on the issuance of licenses by the Federal Power Commission in those cases where Congress has authorized a comprehensive plan of development for prosecution by the federal government; or where the Congress has appropriated funds to finance surveys, reports or cost estimates on a power site.

It is our conviction that the water resources of the nation must be developed to the maximum. The demands of the present and future generations require that we obtain the full potential from our rivers and streams. It seems to us that when public funds have been expended in developing the potentials of a site — funds appropriated by the Congress — a license should not be issued until the Congress has had an additional opportunity to review the prospective development.

Recent judicial and administrative action with reference to two projects has demonstrated the need for this type of legislation. I hope you will agree with our thinking on this matter and will consent to join us in sponsoring this bill.

If you find it convenient to do so, I would be glad to talk to you about this proposal. Otherwise, if you decide to join me and Senator Magnuson, I will appreciate it if a member of your staff will notify my assistant, Mr. Salter.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Henry M. Jackson, U. S. S.