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March 6, 1978

Dear Juanita:

The President asked me to inform you that he has no objection to your proposal to appoint Mr. Robert W. Knecht as Assistant Administrator for Coastal Zone Management in the Department of Commerce.

I assume your office will work with the Presidential Personnel Office in making available any documents which are necessary for the conflicts of interest and/or security clearances required for a Level V position.

Sincerely,

Hamilton Jordan
Assistant to the President

The Honorable Juanita M. Kreps
Secretary of Commerce
Department of Commerce
Washington, D.C. 20230

bcc: Rick Hutcheson
    Jim Gammill
WASHINGTON

DATE: 06 MAR 78

FOR ACTION: HAMILTON JORDAN

INFO ONLY: JIM CAMMILL

SUBJECT: KREPS LETTER RE APPOINTMENT OF ROBERT W. KNECHT FOR ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR COSTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT

+ RESPONSE DUE TO RICK HUTCHESON STAFF SECRETARY (456-7052) 
+ BY: 

ACTION REQUESTED:

STAFF RESPONSE: ( ) I CONCUR. ( ) NO COMMENT. ( ) HOLD.

PLEASE NOTE OTHER COMMENTS BELOW:
DATE: 06 MAR 78
FOR ACTION: HAMILTON JORDAN

INFO ONLY: JIM GAMMILL

SUBJECT: KREPS LETTER RE APPOINTMENT OF ROBERT W. KNECHT FOR ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR COSTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT

RESPONSE DUE TO RICK HUTCHESON STAFF SECRETARY (456-7052)

BY:

ACTION REQUESTED:

STAFF RESPONSE: ( ) I CONCUR. ( ) NO COMMENT. ( ) HOLD.

PLEASE NOTE OTHER COMMENTS BELOW:
Dear Mr. President:

The Fisheries Conservation Zone Transition Act (P.L. 95-219) of December 27, 1977, redesignated the position of Associate Administrator for Coastal Zone Management to Assistant Administrator for Coastal Zone Management. This position is authorized to be filled by the Secretary of Commerce subject to the approval of the President. Compensation for it is set at the rate provided for Level V of the Executive Schedule (5 U.S.C. 5316).

This letter requests your approval of the appointment of Mr. Robert W. Knecht, our candidate for the position. As the officer responsible for implementing the programs authorized in the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended, the Assistant Administrator for Coastal Zone Management is required to administer NOAA's Coastal Zone Management, Coastal Energy Impact, Estuarine Sanctuaries, Beach Access, and Coastal Zone Research and Technical Assistance Programs.

Mr. Knecht, of Sumner, Maryland, is currently serving as Acting Assistant Administrator for Coastal Zone Management. For the last five years he has been directly associated with NOAA's Coastal Zone Programs. His previous experience has included service as Deputy Director of the Environmental Research Laboratories, NOAA (1968-1973); and Director of the Space Disturbances Laboratory, Environmental Science Services Administration (1965-1968). Prior to that he served as Chief, Ionosphere Research and Propagation Division, National Bureau of Standards.
A biographical summary and a statement of proposed duties for Mr. Knecht are enclosed. I heartily recommend your approval of this appointment.

Respectfully,

Juanita M. Kreps

Enclosures

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

APPROVED

DISAPPROVED
Dear Mr. President:

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Respectfully,

[Signature]

Joanita M. Kreps

Enclosures

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

APPROVED /)

DISAPPROVED /
Robert William Knecht

Date & Place of Birth                        Local Residence                   Marital Status
May 4, 1928                                4960 Sentinel Drive              Divorced
Ogdensburg, New York                        Sumner, Maryland 20016            Three children

Education
B.S. Physics, Union College, Schenectady, New York, 1949
Master of Marine Affairs (with distinction), University of Rhode Island, 1972

Present Position
December 1977 - Present, Acting Assistant Administrator for Coastal Zone Management, NOAA

Prior Experience
3/77 - 12/77 Acting Associate Administrator for Coastal Zone Management, Level V
2/75 - 3/77 Assistant Administrator for Coastal Zone Management, GS-18
7/73 - 2/75 Director, Coastal Environment
1968 - 1973 Deputy Director, Environmental Research Laboratories, NOAA
1965 - 1968 Director, Space Disturbances Laboratory, NOAA
1960 - 1965 Chief, Ionosphere Research and Propagation Division, National Bureau of Standards
1959 - 1960 Chief, Sun-Earth Relationships Section, National Bureau of Standards
1949 - 1959 Physicist, National Bureau of Standards

Honors and Professional Affiliations
U.S. Department of Commerce Gold Medal Award 1965
Meritorious Supervisor Award 1965
Member of the American Geophysical Union, Washington, D.C., 1951-1972
Member of the International Scientific Radio Union, 1952-1971
Member Research Society of America, Boulder, Colorado, 1957-1971
Member of the Board of Directors of the Coastal Society, Arlington, Virginia, 1975 to present
Chairman, Interdepartmental Committee for Atmospheric Sciences Panel on Space Environmental Forecasting
Chairman of the National League of Cities Committee on Environmental Quality 1968-1969
Member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science

Recent Publications
"Federal Role in Coastal Recreation Management," Coastal Recreation Resources in an Urbanizing Environment, Co-op Extension Service, University of Massachusetts, (August 1977)

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Assistant Administrator for Coastal Zone Management
Executive Level V

The Assistant Administrator for Coastal Zone Management shall administer NOAA's Coastal Zone Management, Coastal Energy Impact, Estuarine Sanctuaries, Beach Access, and Coastal Zone Research and Technical Assistance Programs. As the officer responsible for implementing the programs authorized in the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended, the Assistant Administrator shall:

- Develop policies and guidelines on a continuing basis to assist state and local governments in the effective management and, where possible, restoration and enhancement of the land and water resources of the coastal zone of the nation.

- Develop policies and guidelines on a continuing basis to assist state and local governments in planning for the consequences of and impacts on the Nation's coastal zones due to accelerated energy development activity.

- Develop policies and guidelines and administer the Estuarine Sanctuaries and Beach Access programs (16 U.S.C. 1461).

- Administer and monitor grants to states in support of the development and administration of coastal zone management programs.

- Administer and monitor an energy impact financial assistance program consisting of loans, bond guarantees, planning grants, environmental grants and formula grants, each subject to specified conditions, for the purpose of meeting needs of states and local governments resulting from new or expanded energy activity in or affecting the coastal zone.
o Develop NOAA policy, promulgate regulations, and implement procedures necessary for Federal review and approval of state coastal zone management programs and the execution of Federal consistency provisions which then come into force.

o Serve as focal point for Federal interagency coordination and Federal State consultation efforts on all matters relating to the Nation's coastal zone management.

o Serve as the Federal Government focal point regarding the operation of Federal programs affecting the Nation's coastal zone and the consistency of these programs with the policies contained in the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended.
DATE: 06 MAR 78
FOR ACTION:

INFO ONLY: BOB LIPSHUTZ

SUBJECT: EIZENSTAT MEMO RE LAWSUIT CONCERNING WATER POLICY STUDY

RESPONSE DUE TO RICK HUTCHESON STAFF SECRETARY (456-7052)
BY:

ACTION REQUESTED: YOUR COMMENTS

STAFF RESPONSE: ( ) I CONCUR. ( ) NO COMMENT. ( ) HOLD.

PLEASE NOTE OTHER COMMENTS BELOW:
Last fall, the State of North Dakota filed suit in order to require an environmental impact statement (EIS) to accompany the water policy study recommendations submitted to you. You, Secretary Andrus, Jim McIntyre and Charles Warren were the original defendants, but the case has since been dismissed as to you.

Recent motions in that case -- designed to bar submission of the decision memo to you until an EIS has been prepared on the memo and requesting a copy of the decision memo -- present potential problems. Justice believes the motions are unlikely to succeed and is hopeful that the case will not affect our internal processes of presenting the option paper to you on March 15.

On the merits, it appears clear that environmental impact statements would be required in order to implement some of the recommendations (preparation of regulations, etc.), but that decision papers that go to you are not appropriately subject to the EIA process.

Both of these motions are being fought by Justice, but since it is at least remotely possible that this case may affect the timing of your decisions, I wanted to alert you to its existence.