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United States Senate
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CAMBRIDGE, MASS
October 30, 1981

Mr. Paul E. Healy
City Clerk
City Hall
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Dear Mr. Healy:

Thank you for sending me a copy of the Cambridge City Council's resolution regarding Secretary James Watt's proposals.

I had hoped that Secretary Watt would rise to the challenge of the enormous responsibilities which he has assumed and that the weight of these responsibilities would moderate his views.

I am very concerned that the decisions which Mr. Watt has made as Secretary of the Interior indicate that he is not enthusiastically committed to the protection of our natural environment. While I believe that a balance can be achieved between the needs for legitimate development of resources and the preservation of our natural environment, all indications have been that the Watt policy is far from this sort of balance.

I am opposed to Secretary Watt's proposals to accelerate energy and mineral leasing activities on federal lands in an expanded "multiple use" policy. In addition, I strongly disagree with efforts to transfer national park lands to the states. Please be assured that I will monitor the actions of Secretary Watt and will continue to work for the protection of our environment.

I am still hopeful that the 97th Congress will reflect the view of the majority of Americans that the environment should be vigorously protected by the federal government. When the Congress considers reauthorization of the Clean Air Act, the future of the National Forest System, the Clean Water Act, protection of the OCS and other environmental issues, I am hopeful that Secretary Watt and others will discover that the American people do not want to retreat from the progress of the last decade.

Again, thank you for sharing your views with me.

Sincerely,



PAUL E. TSONGAS
United States Senator

PET/jfu

Comm. from Paul E. Healy, City Clerk,
transmitting comm. from Senator Paul Tsongas re: resolutions on Sec. of the Interior James Watt.

In City Council,

November 9, 1981

11/9/81

Placed on File