



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

NOV : 6 1974

Dear Mr. Secretary:

On October 5, 1974, the President signed the territorial submerged lands bill (H.R. 11559, 88 Stat. 1210, P.L. 93-435) by which, with certain exceptions, the submerged lands surrounding the island territories of Guam, American Samoa and the Virgin Islands were transferred from the United States to the respective territories.

Two of the exceptions from the transfer are as follows:

"(vii) all submerged lands designated by the President within one hundred and twenty days after the date of enactment of this Act;

(viii) all submerged lands that are within the administrative responsibility of any agency or department of the United States other than the Department of the Interior;"

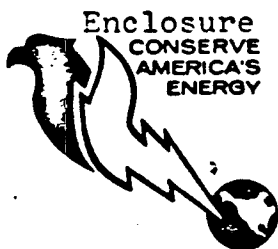
Accordingly, will you please advise us as to whether your agency has any of these submerged lands under its administrative jurisdiction (subsection 1(b)(viii))? If so, please provide us with an adequate description. Additionally, please advise us if you have projected needs for any of these submerged lands (subsection 1(b)(vii)).

A copy of the Act is enclosed. It is necessary for us to have your response within 30 days in order that we may meet the deadlines established in the Act. If we have not heard from you within that 30-day period, we will assume that you have no interest in these submerged lands.

Sincerely yours,

*Rogers C. Baston*  
Secretary of the Interior

Honorable James R. Schlesinger  
Secretary of Defense  
Washington, D. C. 20301



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