

- 1. Congressional approval of the commonwealth proposal rather than empowering the President to approve it.
 - 2. Congressional enactment of the full text of the covenant as negotiated.
- C. This revised option B overcomes the questions we had raised earlier about how to meet Congressional Budget Act requirements for enactment of specific appropriation authorizations such as those included under Article 7 of the covenant.

III. Congressional Committee and agency views:

Mr. Schmitz indicates that preliminary reactions by the House and Senate Interior Committee staffs and the representatives of the other agencies on the working group all indicate that the revised option B is likely to be acceptable as now drafted. I requested that we be kept currently informed of any suggestions for changes in option B by the committees of the other agencies.

IV. Request for views:

- A. Please review both the revised option B of the legislative proposal as well as the draft Presidential transmittal letter and provide me with any suggestions for changes as soon as possible.
- B. Also, please provide your reactions to the idea of giving a qualified OMB position on these documents as early as tomorrow afternoon.

Larry D. Cardwell
Interior Branch
Natural Resources Division

Attachments

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