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The Wilderness Society *

2144 P Street, N. W.
Washington 7, D. C.

26 March 1954

The Honorable Dwight D. Eisenhower
President of the United States
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

We were much surprised to note that the Bureau of the Budget has reported that you have endorsed the Upper Colorado River Storage Project with a specific inclusion of the proposed Echo Park dam that would inundate such a large area of the scenic wild canyons in the Dinosaur National Monument. Conservationists were much encouraged by the support that you voiced in your State of the Union message for our national parks and monuments. It was with hope as well as deep earnestness that we thereafter presented in such full measure our reasons at the hearings held on this issue by the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs demonstrating that this proposed dam would be so destructive to national park system values and also that it would be unnecessary. These hearings, it has seemed to us, have clearly demonstrated that the Upper Colorado River Storage Project can be more advantageously realized without the proposed invasion of the monument, and we most earnestly now urge you to review the testimony at these hearings before finally putting your influence behind this reclamation proposal that would set such a dangerous precedent for the exploitation of our national park system.

Sincerely yours,



Howard Zahniser
Executive Secretary and Editor

HZ/se