Mr. Paul De Falco  
Regional Director  
Environmental Protection Agency  
100 California Street  
San Francisco, CA 94111

Dear Mr. De Falco:

This is to indicate my intentions regarding the designation of Section 208 planning areas and agencies by January 27, 1976.

My Office of Economic Planning and Development has been working on the designation issue with the Environmental Services Division of the Department of Health Services and the councils of governments excluding MAG and PAG, who have already been designated as 208 planning agencies for Maricopa and Pima counties. It is the consensus of these agencies that the existing State planning system and Planning Districts be utilized for 208 planning to maximize the use of resources and to achieve necessary coordination and integration with other related planning efforts, particularly the HUD 701 comprehensive planning program, currently underway in Arizona.

As I agree with this consensus, I am taking the following action:

I. State Planning Districts III, IV, V and VI are hereby designated as 208 planning areas. These districts are composed of the following geographic areas:

a. Planning District III: Apache, Coconino, Navajo and Yavapai counties.
b. Planning District IV: Mohave and Yuma counties
c. Planning Districts V: Gila and Pinal counties
d. Planning District VI: Cochise, Graham, Greenlee and Santa Cruz counties.
II. With regard to 208 area planning agencies it is my intention to designate:

1. Planning District III: the Northern Arizona Council of Governments;
2. Planning District IV: the District IV Council of Governments;
3. Planning District V: the Central Arizona Association of Governments, and;

I will formally designate each of these area immediately upon the receipt of a letter from the Council of Government Chairman requesting designation. It is anticipated that all four areas will be designated before February 15, 1976.

It is also my intention to designate the Governor's Office as the responsible state agency under 208 and to continue the relationship between the Environmental Services Division of the Arizona Department of Health Services and my Office of Economic Planning and Development in coordinating the statewide water quality planning effort with other ongoing planning activities.

As you know, Ms. Vicki Schuckert, of OEPAD is currently working with the Washington Office of EPA in coordinating the 208 program. I feel that this relationship will be of particular benefit to us as we embark upon this planning effort.

I trust this information will be of value to you in administering your responsibilities under Section 208. Should you have any questions regarding Arizona's approach to 208 planning, please contact Dr. Brent Brown of my Office of Economic Planning and Development, or his Inter-governmental Programs Coordinator, Constance La Monica.

Cordially,

Raul H. Castro