

## Colorado Division of Planning

John D. Vanderhoof / Governor

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Department of Local Affairs

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Philip H. Schmuck / Director

March 5, 1974

Mr. Jack Wadlow, Chairman Mesa County Board of Commissioners P.O. Box 897 Grand Junction, Colorado 81501

Dear Mr. Wadlow:

This letter is in response to our telephone conversation of March 1, 1974, in which we discussed the issues raised in your letter of February 27, addressed to Margie Kaminsky of this agency.

L. AUBERT

E. LAMM

J. WADLOW

Basically, I would like to emphasize the fact that the proposed Four Corners Technical Assistance funds are being granted for the purpose of planning by Mesa County, for a master sewage treatment plan for the Grand Valley area. The passage of such funds through the Council of Government vehicle is by no means intended to usurp the planning authority of Mesa County, nor will it prevent the full grant amount from being made available to Mesa County.

In reference to our discussion on the role of the Council of Government as grant administrator, the Division of Planning and the Four Corners Regional Commission agreed in a contract dated December 1973, that "...Whereas the districts have organizations capable of administering planning programs at regional and local levels; Therefore it is proposed that the State Planning Office be funded by the Four Corners Regional Commission....for the purpose of funding eligible project planning programs in the state planning and management districts...."

In accord with the policies of this Division, this agreement was based on at least three points:

- 1. The Four Corners funds were passed to the Planning Division to assist with regional planning efforts by regionwide groups of elected officials acting under CRS 106-2-4;
- 2. These regional organizations would themselves set priorities among proposed projects.
- Local plans conducted with this funding could serve as "building blocks" of regional plans.

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In other words the conditions and purpose of the grant were directly relevant to the procedure of administration by the regionwide group of elected officials in each region. It is my sincere hope that the Mesa County Commissioners will take these factors into consideration so that we may proceed to execute the grant award to the Council of Governments and so on th Mesa County in order to allow the project to get under way as soon as possible.

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

F. Kenneth Baskette, Jr.

Menneth Baskett J

Assistant Director

FKB/bm

cc: C.W. Brennan Pat Halligan Albin Anderson