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June 16, 1977

OF COUNSEL

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ATT: W. L. Bredar

Executive Vice-President

Our File No. 01430 008

Gentlemen:

This letter is in response to your inquiry directed to me on June 3, 1977 concerning the waste water treatment alternatives for the City of Grand Junction and Mesa County.

We are of the opinion that the City of Grand Junction and/or Mesa County can file an application for and obtain a valid water right which would take its supply of water from the Colorado River at a point below the tail-race of the Redlands Water and Power Company power plant for 30 c.f.s. of water, which should be equivalent to 25 million gallons per day.

We estimate that approximately 120 days would be required to perfect a conditional right of that size and at that location, from the date of filing of the application, unless there was a protest to the claim. In the event a protest is filed, the time necessary to obtain a conditional right would be much longer, but the priority date or date of appropriation would remain the same. Based upon our experience in this area, we do not anticipate that any protest would be filed to such application.

We are of the opinion that a water right based on an application filed as noted above, would provide the City with a valid water right which would provide water for the anticipated rises on a permanent basis.

If you desire any further information in connection with the comments expressed in this letter, please let us know.

Respectfully summitted,

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