




We have new technologies, new insights into hydrology, and examples of basin collaboration proven superior to a set of procedures outlined in a manual predicated on the 85-year old Order. If only watersheds and natural processes were so obedient... Currently there is little ability to exercise managerial prerogative that can bend to the vicissitudes of the watershed. Instead we wrestle with the rigid lines of jurisdiction. For these reasons and others, it is my belief that we cannot stop by simply revising the administrative procedures. The 1921 Order needs to be renovated as badly as the St. Mary Diversion Facilities.

Ladies and gentlemen, we have a solvable problem before us, and it does not lie in more letters of intent, but on more permanent solutions that spread the wealth of this renewable resource, by equally dividing the flow in the Milk and St. Mary river basins. I support establishing a new interest-based IJC Order that provides room for growth and flexibility, which will in turn open the door to a watershed approach that binds our nations rather than further divide us. I sincerely hope the IJC will act on this challenge.

I submit this written testimony for the record.

Thank You

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael J. Jacobs".