



1 beneficial to the growth and economy of Montana; and

2 WHEREAS, the hydroelectric potential of Reichle Dam  
3 could be utilized to help alleviate the energy crisis faced  
4 by the United States and to help defray the costs of the  
5 Jefferson-Whitehall Unit; and

6 WHEREAS, a dependable supply of stored water would be  
7 beneficial to the research and development associated with  
8 the magnetohydrodynamic project being conducted in Montana;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, it is becoming apparent that if Montanans do  
11 not plan to use Montana water for their own benefit, they  
12 will lose the water rights to the demands of downstream  
13 users in other states where water is appropriated to a  
14 beneficial use, prior in time; and

15 WHEREAS, the Jefferson-Whitehall Unit would benefit the  
16 people of Montana and was considered by the Bureau of  
17 Reclamation and the Department of the Interior prior to the  
18 development of the energy crisis and the present depressed  
19 economy.

20

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE  
22 OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

23 That the Senate and House of Representatives of the  
24 State of Montana request the Bureau of Reclamation and the  
25 Energy Research and Development Administration to study the

1 Jefferson-Whitehall Unit of the Missouri River Basin Project  
2 in light of present economic, social, and technological  
3 conditions.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State is  
5 instructed to send a copy of this resolution to each member  
6 of the Montana Congressional Delegation, the Secretary of  
7 the Interior, the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for  
8 Land and Water Resources, the Director of the Bureau of  
9 Reclamation, the Regional Director of the Upper Missouri  
10 Region Field Office of the Bureau of Reclamation, the  
11 Administrator of the Energy Research and Development  
12 Administration, and the County Commissioners of Broadwater,  
13 Jefferson, and Madison counties.

-End-

Committee on Judiciary  
Objection Raised to  
Adverse Committee Report

*Bengtson*  
*Waldron*  
*Marion*  
*H. Huenrichsen*  
*M. R. Kinkead*  
*Jay Zimber*  
*Bobly*  
*Wood*  
*Harvint*  
*Jan*  
*Richard*  
*Underdahl*  
*Quinterson*  
*George*  
*Trudera*  
*L. Hirsch*  
*Manuel*  
*Hand*  
*Hand*  
*Hand*

INTRODUCED BY H. Huenrichsen  
A JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1  
OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION AND THE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION TO STUDY THE JEFFERSON-WHITEHALL UNIT OF THE MISSOURI RIVER BASIN PROJECT IN LIGHT OF PRESENT ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND TECHNOLOGICAL CONDITIONS.

WHEREAS, the need for watershed and irrigation development is critical for the continued growth of agriculture in Montana and has been revealed by severe summer droughts; and

WHEREAS, the climatic and soil conditions of Broadwater, Jefferson, and Madison counties are such that irrigated land produces a high proportion of the total value of the crops; and

WHEREAS, the current plans for the Jefferson-Whitehall Unit would provide sufficient water to bring approximately 50,000 acres of new land into irrigated production and provide a supplemental water supply to approximately 15,000 acres of land presently irrigated but with inadequate water supplies; and

WHEREAS, the economy of Montana is enhanced by a more

1 stable farm income, and the stable farm income resulting  
2 from this Jefferson-Whitehall Unit would provide more  
3 predictable investment conditions in the towns of Toston,  
4 Three Forks, Townsend, Willow Creek, Cardwell, Whitehall,  
5 Twin Bridges, and Dillon; and

6 WHEREAS, the need exists for increased control of river  
7 flows during periods of heavy spring runoff which flood the  
8 Jefferson River and its tributaries and have frequently  
9 caused damage to farm land, irrigation, communication and  
10 transportation facilities, and other improvements along the  
11 streams; and

12 WHEREAS, the Big Hole and Jefferson Rivers are  
13 considered by many people to be among the finest fishing  
14 streams in Montana, and in many years very low flows during  
15 late summer months and high turbid flows during spring  
16 months have limited fishing on both streams; and

17 WHEREAS, the construction of the Reichle Dam and  
18 Reservoir as an element of the Jefferson-Whitehall Unit will  
19 result in excellent lake and stream fishing, and the  
20 proposed development would enhance the overall fishery value  
21 of the area by greatly improving the streamflow patterns,  
22 especially those in the Jefferson River; and

23 WHEREAS, the water stored as a result of the  
24 Jefferson-Whitehall Unit could be made available for  
25 industrial development, and such development would be

*H.J.R.I*

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12 Administration, and the County Commissioners of Broadwater,  
13 Jefferson, and Madison counties.

-End-