

SIERRA CLUB



LONE STAR CHAPTER

September 14, 1986

C. J. Pinckard
AT&T Communications
Capital Bank Plaza
Suite 1700
333 Clay Street
Houston, Texas 77002

Dear Mr. Pinckard,

I enjoyed meeting you at the Houston Canoe Club meeting this past week and appreciate this opportunity to inform the HCC Board about the Wallisville lawsuit and make a request for financial assistance.

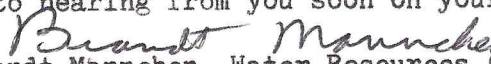
Since 1984 the Lone Chapter of the Sierra Club, the Houston Audubon Society (HAS), Gulf Coast Conservation Association, and others have paid or are in the process of paying \$30,000 on the Wallisville lawsuit. With the exception of \$4,000 this debt has been paid. A good portion of the money raised by the Sierra Club has been raised by the Houston Group. The reason that the Sierra Club and HAS are splitting the costs is due to the inability of some of the other original plaintiffs (Texas Shrimp Association, Houston Sportsmans Club, and several individuals) to pay more than modest amounts in support of the lawsuit. This division makes it easy for the two groups to fundraise as they know exactly what amount they are responsible for raising. This method also insures that no problems develop concerning who paid a greater or lesser share of the costs of the lawsuit.

The Sierra Club has and is continuing to seek funds from other organizations like Galveston Bay Conservation and Preservation Association, GCCA, and others. The \$4,000 that remains to be paid is for work done by Ray Berry, our attorney, on our winning federal district court trial in March 1986. Since we are gearing up for the Corps, City of Houston (which has spent more than \$500,000 in attorney's fees), the Trinity River Authority, and the Chambers-Liberty County Navigation District appeal of our March victory in the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans, we are trying to build up a war chest so we will be able to pay our attorney in a more timely fashion.

Ray Berry has spent thousands of hours on this case since 1974. His work record is unexcelled and we will have the help of National Sierra Club's Legal Defense Fund in the appeal. Ray's fees have been below scale at only \$45/hour. Other expenses we incur in this lawsuit which will be paid include printing or copying costs, transcript costs, filing costs, briefs, expert witness fees, and miscellaneous court costs.

We would appreciate any contribution from the HCC. But since I know it is helpful to have some minimum or maximum figure to discuss a contribution of \$200-\$1000 would be very timely, helpful, and much appreciated. Enclosed is additional material about the dam which should be helpful in clarifying our concerns. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me. We sincerely appreciate your interest in the Wallisville Dam lawsuit and look forward to hearing from you soon on your decision.

Sincerely,


Brandt Mannchen, Water Resources Chair, Lone Star Chapter, 1515 Missouri #17,
Houston, Texas 77006 H713-522-1489, W713-645-5316