

ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN STATE ENGINEERS

2009 POSITION STATEMENT

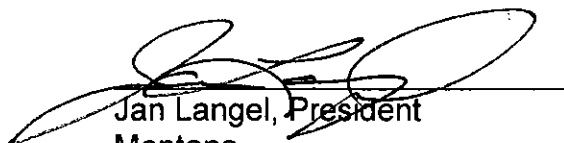
FEDERAL PAYMENT OF ADJUDICATION AND ADMINISTRATION COSTS

The federal government administers much of the land in the west and has many claims to water rights under both federal and state laws. Proper administration of water rights by the states, including those held by the federal government and those held in trust for Indian tribes, is in the interest of all water users. Like other water users, the federal government benefits from the adjudication and administration of water rights and should pay an equitable share of the cost of state programs to adjudicate water rights under the McCarran Amendment, and pay water use fees established by state water administrators.

The Association of Western State Engineers encourages Congress to enact legislation requiring federal agencies to pay an equitable share of the state's cost of McCarran Amendment adjudications.

Adopted this 7th day of October, 2009.

Association of Western State Engineers


Jan Langel, President
Montana