

July 9, 1959

The Honorable James E. Van Zandt
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman Van Zandt:

The Pennsylvania State University is a member of the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research which is striving to stimulate an expansion of research in this area.

Two years ago the National Academy of Sciences and the National Research Council made an independent study of the total picture in atmospheric research in the United States and found it wholly inadequate to meet present-day needs. They proposed that steps be taken to correct this situation. As a result of this action, thirteen universities over the country have formed the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research in order to stimulate work in this area through a grant from the National Science Foundation. NSF has an item in their budget for establishing an Institute for Atmospheric Research under the supervision of the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research.

Dr. Henry G. Houghton who is Head of the Department of Meteorology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and also Chairman of the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research appeared before the Senate Subcommittee for Independent Offices and General Government Matters of the Senate Appropriations Committee on Friday, June 5 to be heard on this matter. At that time I sent the telegram shown below to Senator Magnuson, Chairman of the above committee (as well as to Senator Clark and Senator Scott) and wish to bring it to your attention at this time.

"The following statement is for inclusion in the records of the hearings of the Independent Offices Appropriations Bill for 1960:

"We wish to go on record as supporting two items in the NSF budget proposal: \$500,000 for the National Institute for Atmospheric Research, and \$2,000,000 for weather modification research. A concerted attack on important atmospheric problems through the large-scale collective efforts of various

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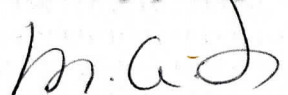
scientific specialists in a National Institute for Atmospheric Research and through expanded research at various universities are vital to American agriculture and industry, to national defense, and the furtherance of space science and technology."

I understand the House Subcommittee on Appropriations reduced the request of the NSF by about 17 million dollars. Senate action restored about 15.5 million dollars of this cut. A meeting of House and Senate subcommittees soon after July 10 will decide a final figure. Mr. Albert Thomas is chairman of the House Subcommittee on Appropriations.

Penn State is recognized as one of the strongest units in the country in meteorological research. It can be helpful in meeting the shortage of trained manpower in this area as well as participating in atmospheric researches that will provide many needed answers.

Your support is solicited in making adequate NSF funds available to carry on this endeavor. This proposal has received careful study over the past two and one-half years, and much additional information is available which I would be happy to provide if you would care to see it.

Sincerely yours,



M. A. Farrell
Vice President for Research

bcc: Dr. Henry G. Houghton
President Eric A. Walker
Vice President McKay Donkin