(e) Requests for records which originate in or concern matters which originate in another department or agency may be forwarded to the department or agency primarily concerned and the requester so notified.

§ 701.203 Schedule of fees.

(a) The Public Information Officer will to the extent practicable, encourage the widest possible distribution of information by permitting requests for inspection or copies of records or materials to be met without cost to the person making the request.

(b) Fees will be charged in the case of requests which are determined by the Public Information Officer to involve a burden on staff or facilities significantly in excess of that normally accepted by the Council in handling routine requests for information.

(c) In all instances where the Public Information Officer determines that a request for information can be considered as primarily benefiting the general public (despite a § 701.203 determination of burden), such request shall be met either without cost wherever practicable or at a reduced cost to the requester. Any such reduction shall be determined by the Public Information Officer on the basis of the balance between the benefit to the general public and the cost to the Water Resources Council.

(d) Fees shall be limited to recovery of only direct costs of search and duplication but in no event shall the fee for search and duplication exceed $2.50 per half hour, nor shall the fee for copying exceed $0.25 per page (maximum per page dimension of 8½ x 11 inches).

(e) Unless a request for information specifically states that whatever cost is involved will be acceptable, or acceptable up to a specified limit that covers anticipated costs, a request that is expected to involve an assessed fee in excess of $50.00 will not be deemed to have been received until the requester is advised promptly upon physical receipt of the request of the anticipated cost and agrees to bear it.

(f) When anticipated fees exceed $50.00, a deposit for 25% of the amount must be made within 10 days of the notice to the requester of the initial determination.

(g) The Council reserves the right to limit the number of copies of any document that will be provided to any one person.

§ 701.204 Time limits for WRC initial determinations regarding requests for information.

(a) An initial determination to grant or deny each request for information will be made within ten (10) working days of receipt of such request.

(b) The requester shall be notified immediately of the initial determination and the reasons therefor.

(c) The Public Information Officer will make initial determinations to grant requests for information.

(1) In those instances where the initial determination by the Public Information Officer is to grant the request and the information is immediately supplied such action will serve as both notice of determination and compliance with the request.

(2) In those instances where the initial determination by the Public Information Officer is to grant the request, but the information is not immediately available, the Public Information Officer will send immediate notice of the determination to comply, and the approximate date the information will be forwarded.

(d) The Public Information Officer will make initial determinations to deny the requests only with the concurrence of the General Counsel. The requester shall be notified immediately of the initial adverse determination, the reasons therefor, and the right to appeal the initial adverse determination to the Director.

§ 701.205 Time limit for requester to appeal an initial adverse determination.

(a) The requester shall have thirty (30) calendar days to file with the Director an appeal from an initial adverse determination. The appeal must be in writing.

(b) The thirty (30) day period of appeal shall run from receipt of the initial adverse determination (in cases of denial of an entire request) and from receipt of any records being made