

SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESS

FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 1963

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SPECIAL SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS OF THE
COMMITTEE ON INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE,
Washington, D.C.

The special subcommittee met, pursuant to recess, at 10:05 a.m., in room 1334, Longworth House Office Building, Hon. Oren Harris (chairman of the special subcommittee) presiding.

The CHAIRMAN. The subcommittee will come to order.

This morning, as we resume the hearing in connection with problems with which this committee is concerned, which are the regulatory agencies, particularly at this time, the Federal Power Commission, we will have as a witness the Honorable Joseph C. Swidler, Chairman of the Federal Power Commission. Mr. Morgan, who is a member of the Commission, yesterday testified concerning his views resulting in his decision not to seek reappointment, and explanation of the letter he wrote to the President of the United States.

Of course, we are thinking particularly of the hearing we have now. Since Mr. Morgan has already made his statement and publicity has resulted therefrom, these questions have far-ranging impact and are most important to the chairman of the Commission, who will have an opportunity to discuss these matters for the benefit of the committee.

Also, I might say in view of the broad general charges, if I might describe them as such, contained in the publicized letter and in statements made during the course of the presentation yesterday and the day before, I think that the committee should give opportunity to other members of the Federal Power Commission to testify if they so desire, because the implications involved might, as happened some years ago with the Federal Communications Commission, raise questions about individual members which they might feel they should have an opportunity to respond to.

At the outset, and in carrying out long-established procedures of this committee, Mr. Swidler, I will ask you to be sworn.

Do you solemnly swear that the testimony you give to this committee will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. SWIDLER. I do.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Swidler, you are familiar with the background which led to these hearings, and I believe you have been in attendance during the last 2 days that Mr. Morgan has been before the committee.