

Therefore, it will be unnecessary for me to comment on that for your information, because you already know what has been said, and also, I do not delude myself at all. I know there have been discussions about these problems between you and Mr. Morgan for some time, and particularly with reference to the contents of his dissenting opinions. I realize that even one, much less six, I believe he referred to, is a rather difficult and technical and somewhat lengthy matter and I believe you should be permitted to handle it in your own way.

I believe you have a statement you wish to make first.

TESTIMONY OF HON. JOSEPH C. SWIDLER, CHAIRMAN, FEDERAL POWER COMMISSION

Mr. SWIDLER. Mr. Chairman, Mr. Brotzman, I have a prepared statement, but I shall not read it. It is available.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you wish your statement to be included in the record?

Mr. SWIDLER. I should like to have it included in the record; yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. I observe that you have a number of exhibits along with it. Do you wish those to be included with it, too?

Mr. SWIDLER. Yes, sir. I should like to have the entire statement made a matter of the record, if you please.

The CHAIRMAN. It is your desire, then, to, in your own words, explain the statement that summarizes the problem before the committee and the information therein?

Mr. SWIDLER. Yes.

I should like to begin, if I may, Mr. Chairman, by telling something about the work of the Federal Power Commission in the last 18 months or so that I have been Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, permit the Chair to say that your statement, then, will be included in the record in accordance with your desires, and you may proceed.

Mr. SWIDLER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

(The complete prepared statement of Hon. Joseph C. Swidler, with attachments, is as follows:)

STATEMENT OF JOSEPH C. SWIDLER, CHAIRMAN, FEDERAL POWER COMMISSION

I am glad to have this opportunity to appear before this committee to answer your questions and to tell you of some of the activities of the Federal Power Commission in the past 18 months during which the present members of the Commission have assumed office. The House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce has great familiarity with the FPC's problems and operations, as well as its legislative history and future legislative needs. I feel privileged to be able to make to this committee an accounting of the present Commission's stewardship over the functions which Congress has lodged in the Commission. I believe that all of the present members of the Commission can take pride in our record of reducing the backlog of pending natural gas cases and of asserting the Commission's long-neglected responsibilities under the Federal Power Act.

You may remember that before the present members of the Commission were appointed, the Federal Power Commission was frequently held up as one of the poorest administrative agencies in the entire Federal system. Dean Landis in his report to then President-elect Kennedy stated that "the Federal Power Commission without question represents the outstanding example in the Federal Government of the breakdown of the administrative process," and the President in a message to Congress in April 1961 singled out the Commission's incredible backlog of pipeline rate cases pending which totaled over \$1 billion in rate suspensions.