

The CHAIRMAN. You kept in mind the interest of the public in each one of those, I believe you said?

Mr. SWIDLER. Oh, yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Is it not a fact that with the approval of \$600 million in construction, uniform throughout the United States, that it helped the economy of the country to that extent?

Mr. SWIDLER. Yes, sir, it is particularly important in the steel industry, sir.

A lot of that is pipe.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, isn't it also important, insofar as employment is concerned, too?

Mr. SWIDLER. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, how many applications, in dollars and cents, approximately do you have pending before the Commission today?

Mr. SWIDLER. That figure is in the quarterly report which is part of the record. It is appendix A to my statement, and I believe it is about \$800 million.

I can now give you the exact figure for the pipeline certificates, sir.

In 1961 the amount authorized was \$309 million. In 1962 it was \$628 million and for January 1963 it was \$66 million.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, I for one want to compliment you and the Commission for your efforts in bringing about a decision in these matters in order that the public can be served and protected and the economy of the country improved to that extent.

I have before me, as of January 30, 1963, recent activities of the Federal Power Commission. I am talking about the reports, and in which there are set out, insofar as the natural gas industry is concerned 18 items.

You are familiar with that, are you not?

Mr. SWIDLER. Yes, sir. I would hope that you would see fit to put that in the record, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, I was going to ask you if it was included in your report that you submitted to us this morning.

Mr. SWIDLER. Not in as complete a way, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, I should like to include this in the record because I think it contains positive facts as to what has been accomplished by the Commission.

In the same report, in the electric power industry, it will be noted 12 specific items. You are familiar with that, are you not?

Mr. SWIDLER. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, I think that that should go into the record, too, in order that it might be available to see what has been accomplished respecting these problems before the Commission

And I would like to submit it for the record at this point.

(The report mentioned above follows:)

RECENT ACTIVITIES OF THE FPC

NATURAL GAS

1. In the past 18 months the Commission has disposed of two-thirds of the billion-dollar backlog of pipeline rate cases it inherited and has ordered interstate pipelines to refund \$350 million and reduce their rates for the future by over \$62 million annually.

2. The rapid increase in the wellhead price of gas sold in interstate commerce has been halted. The average price has been virtually stabilized in the past year.