

MATERIAL SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD BY STATE SENATOR JOSEPH GANT

The city of Carlsbad has experienced a rapid growth in population over the past 3 years as a direct result of energy related activities in the area. The activities include development of oil and gas, the planning of the atomic waste isolation pilot research project, the establishment of anhydrous ammonia plants which use natural gas as feedstock, and increased mining of potash.

The Carlsbad area is of major importance to every section of our Nation because of several pertinent facts.

1. The energy crisis requires that every effort be made to develop new oil and gas sources. The Carlsbad area has led the permian basin month after month in oil and gas drilling activities (exhibit 1) as documented in the weekly rig report published on a weekly basis by the petroleum information corporation, Midland, Tex. These activities need to continue and Carlsbad must keep abreast of the increased population and need for services caused by these operations moving into the area.

2. The potash mines and anhydrous ammonial plants in the area (exhibits 3 and 4) provide fertilizer throughout our Nation and the free world.

The production of these two of the three major elements essential to grow our food and fiber crops are direct factors in our domestic and foreign trade. Any Carlsbad area deficiencies that would cause difficulty in maintaining these industries and encouraging their continued growth would be of great detrimental affect to our Nation.

3. Of equal or greater importance to the above is the waste isolation pilot plant project that is now progressing rapidly in the Carlsbad area. Without a proper, safe and efficient method of storing nuclear waste, our Nation cannot make the strides necessary in solving our energy crises. The people of the Carlsbad area are working with ERDA and Sandia laboratory to assist the orderly progress being made. The impact upon the Carlsbad area as this project materializes (exhibit 2) will be tremendous as detailed in the Larry Adcock and Associates report on the socioeconomic impact analysis of the proposed waste isolation pilot plant.