

FEDERAL OIL SHALE PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1967

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Washington, D.C.

The committee met, pursuant to recess, at 10:03 o'clock a.m., in room 3110, New Senate Office Building, Senator Frank E. Moss, presiding.

Present: Senators Jackson, Moss, Burdick, Allott, Jordan of Idaho, and Hansen.

Also present: Jerry T. Verkler, staff director; Stewart French, chief counsel; James H. Gamble, professional staff member, and Darryl A. Hart, assistant minority counsel.

Senator Moss. The committee will come to order. We will continue with our hearing on the proposal of the Secretary of the Interior for the development of our oil shale resources.

Our first witness this morning is Joseph L. Fischer, chairman of the Oil Shale Advisory Board to the Secretary of the Interior and president of Resources for the Future.

We are pleased to have you with us, Mr. Fisher, and you may go right ahead, sir.

STATEMENT OF JOSEPH L. FISHER, CHAIRMAN, OIL SHALE ADVISORY BOARD TO THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, AND PRESIDENT OF RESOURCES FOR THE FUTURE, INC.

Mr. FISHER. Thank you very much, Mr. Senator.

I am very pleased to have this chance to present my views on certain aspects of oil shale development policies, particularly the recent five-point program set forth by the Secretary of the Interior. I served as chairman of his Oil Shale Advisory Board, which made an interim report to the Secretary in February, 2 years ago. I must add, Mr. Chairman, that since that time I have followed oil shale questions only in a general way and, therefore, I am not up-to-date on the very latest technological, legal, and other developments.

I did notice that in a recent issue of Oil & Gas Journal, after noting that our Oil Shale Board had not helped very much, it did say this: "Udall ended up adopting something like the middle ground espoused by the Commission Chairman."

I think that is an accurate statement.

Although certain differences among the Board members were clearly revealed in the report, our Oil Shale Advisory Board did find good consensus on a number of important matters including these: Careful protection of land, water, wildlife, and scenic resources in the oil shale