

Senator JORDAN. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Hansen?

Senator HANSEN. I have been very interested in the testimony here this morning, Mr. Cameron. I am delighted that the Senator from Idaho went into this question of water. It is a concern that has been of real interest to me. I have only one further comment to make. It is that I hope your suggestion that the Federal authorities will go to the States to find out what has been done, what projections have been made in the way of conservation practices that could well be implemented, will be followed up. I think that, if the Federal Government recognizes the good sense in taking this approach, it might be very worthwhile and undoubtedly a number of techniques that would be useful would be disclosed to the Federal Government that might be very helpful. I commend you for that observation. I have no further questions.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much. Thank you, Mr. Cameron. We appreciate having your statement.

(The letter previously referred to follows:)

STATE OF COLORADO,
Denver, March 27, 1964.

The Honorable STEWART L. UDALL,
Secretary of the Interior,
Washington, D.C.

MY DEAR MR. SECRETARY: Your news release of November 5, 1963, invited suggestions looking toward formulation of a program for the orderly development of the federally-owned oil shale deposits in Colorado, Utah and Wyoming. It is my pleasure to respond to your invitation in behalf of the State of Colorado and its citizens.

You have suggested that we consider carefully the relationship of oil shale, as an energy source, to coal, petroleum, natural gas, hydro-power, atomic energy and other sources of energy, both domestically and in relation to international affairs. To the best of our abilities we have done this and, in addition, have conducted a serious canvass of interested citizens and of industry over the last several months. Based upon our investigations we earnestly ask your consideration of the following:

1. The earliest possible development of our oil shale resource is essential to assuring a solid long-range supplement to our domestic petroleum supply. Although we do not fear that our country is running out of oil or other energy sources, it is becoming increasingly apparent that the combined effect of all of the national and international factors affecting the supply of and the demand for energy may, in as short a term as ten years hence, be such that our national security and economy will demand the then immediate availability of significant production from oil shale.

The problems which now obstruct the development of our oil shale deposits are many and complex, but they are not insoluble. It is apparent, however, that a prompt and vigorous start must be made to achieve even such a long range goal as a respectable capacity to produce oil from oil shale not later than 1975. To decide to wait until all of the problems have been identified, studied and solved would, because of the constantly changing effect of other economic factors, be tantamount to a decision *not* to foster the development of oil shale and in fact to discourage it.

While we do not counsel hasty and ill-considered action, we are convinced that the immediate removal of certain major obstacles to oil shale development could assure that operations would permit an industry be commenced in due course. Thereafter, we can address ourselves to the solution of lesser problems.

2. It is our judgment that the two largest impediments to making a start are: (a) the present unavailability of the publicly-owned deposits, and (b) the extreme delay by the Department of the Interior in processing oil shale patent applications.