We should take at that point not a very conservative view in terms of whether they had a process or not, but if they have a process that they show is sufficiently good that they are willing to investigate $100 million or $200 million, I know enough about the way American industry operates to know that in all likelihood this would be a process that could be shown to be satisfactory from our point of view. I think that is the decisive thing.

But I still think we are going to have to have, because of this multimineral aspect, some reserved judgment on this.

Senator ALLOTT. Well, when you refer to Government-sponsored research, what is your concept of what such Government-sponsored research should be, Mr. Secretary?

Mr. UDALL. Well, I think the Government-sponsored research probably should be in the *in situ* field. Obviously we are going to have the Atomic Energy Commission in that in any event. I think that there are some of these particular aspects of the problem where the Government research effort, as the protector of the long-term interest of the Nation as a whole, ought to be in the direction of maximum utilization of the resource.

I would expect in the first stages that some company's interest might be in a more narrow band of interest, and what our research ought to try to do is to enlarge the usefulness of the resource. We should also be active in the development of the technology where the Government must inherently be involved; such as, in the case where nuclear fracturing or anything of that kind is involved.

Senator ALLOTT. Certainly in the case of any *in situ* retorting by the way of nuclear power, the Government would have to be involved, and I agree we have to keep our eyes open for the maximum development and maximum utilization.

In this respect now it is true that under the authority under which you promulgated these proposed regulations the most that any one person could hope to lease would be 5,120 acres; is it not?

Mr. UDALL. Yes, that is true, Senator; but this is written into the law. This is a limitation we have not laid down. This is the basic minimal leasing statute.

Senator ALLOTT. This is right. Under the authority you now have.

Mr. UDALL. That is right.

Senator ALLOTT. You could not do more than this.

Mr. UDALL. In any event, that is correct.

Senator ALLOTT. And more than that, under the revised Mineral Leasing or revised Leasing Act of 1961—I believe it is 1961—this is all that it could be. This is the maximum acreage with respect to oil shale that anyone could hold in the United States. In other words, no one person or a corporation could hold more than 5,120 acres of shale land. He could not pick up 5,120 in Colorado, another 5,120 in Wyoming, and another 5,120 in Utah; is that correct?

Mr. UDALL. Well, I think you are correct.

Senator ALLOTT. So if we can conceive of six companies—and, of course, the companies who are interested in developing this are primarily oil companies because they are the ones who need the oil that pours into our automobile fuel tanks as gasoline—if six companies decided to gamble—I should say invest, although it may turn out to be a