

Co. of California recently—as a matter of fact, the agreement was signed last Friday—entered into a short-term lease agreement with Battelle Development Corp., an affiliate of Battelle Memorial Institute, under which Union is making its experimental site and shale mine in Colorado available on nominal terms to expedite Battelle's program for the development of a novel process for extracting oil from shale.

Even though we have our own proven retorting process, Union is vitally interested in fostering any developments which might speed up and lead to better and cheaper ways to commercialize the vast shale oil resources of the United States.

Considering, gentlemen, the never-ending tenuous world situations that the United States is confronted with, further indecision on oil shale policy is the height of folly. We are appreciative of the fact the Interior Department is moving. Let's, through industry-Government team effort, get going—in the right direction.

Now, I would like to present to you for your inspection an exhibit which I think you will find of interest. I am sure there is going to be some testimony given in the next 48 hours that will pertain to the beauty of Colorado, and believe me, as one who spent 5 years directing our shale research program in Colorado, and having enjoyed its beauties, I certainly am not against that being a factor to be taken into consideration.

But I thought, so that you gentlemen would have some facts to go by rather than theories which tend to come out of beautification experts, I would like to show to you here, first a sample of the retort ash as it comes out of our retort, what it looks like some 7 years later, and I would like to show you this photograph in color, untouched I promise you, of the ash deposit area where you will see green grass growing through. Unfortunately, I have no cow enjoying itself in this picture, but I can assure you it is edible. Also, these pictures were taken in 1965.

Here are three just taken there in the last 60 days which show the same area, and I think it will be comforting to you to know that industry is just as concerned as any of you about what this area will look like when a retort plant has passed through and 20 years have gone by and it has left. We do not propose to have an Appalachian dump heap. We propose to return the area to something which certainly will be in keeping with the beauties of the Colorado mountain scene. May I bring this to you?

The CHAIRMAN. Yes.

Mr. HARTEY. That is the oil shale ash as produced under the effects of moisture, climate, and sodium, deteriorates in the soil, and a little light ammonia, because the nitrogen compounds that are contained in the oil shale and ammonia production is actually made as a byproduct of the process.

As you see, this is a flatland here. These are more recent pictures. We would be pleased to leave that as an exhibit with your committee.

The CHAIRMAN. Fine. Thank you, Mr. Hartley. We will certainly include this in the files in connection with the hearing. Does that complete your statement?

Mr. HARTLEY. Well, I had one other exhibit which I sort of hesitate to show you, but perhaps it does illustrate the entrepreneurial spirit of