

Our other witnesses, we are going to have to carry over until tomorrow morning when the hearings will continue.

The scheduled time is 10 o'clock. I wonder whether we ought to start a little earlier. Do you think we should? We will start at 9:30. We will get at least a 30-minute start in the morning, and see if we can cover the remainder of the witnesses tomorrow.

We regret the inconvenience that may have been caused to those who expected to testify today, but they cannot be reached. We are pleased to have Mr. Lynch, and we will start again at 9:30 in the morning, after Mr. Lynch has completed his testimony today.

STATEMENT OF DANIEL F. LYNCH, ATTORNEY, DENVER, COLO.

Mr. LYNCH. Senator Moss and members of the committee, I thank you very much for your courtesy extended to me, not only in hearing what I have to say this afternoon, but also in calling me out of order.

I certainly hope that I have not inconvenienced unduly the witnesses who were scheduled to appear before me. It is true, however, that I do have to attend a meeting of the University of Colorado regents tomorrow afternoon or tomorrow morning, so, as I say, I deeply appreciate the courtesy which is being extended to me.

Because I know that the committee has carried these hearings on late into the day, and because I also know that other concerns are certainly pressing on the committee and members of the committee, I shall not read verbatim the remarks which I have prepared and which I have already distributed to the committee.

I assume the members have those remarks and they will be a part of the record, and it will not be necessary for me to make all the points which I made in my prepared testimony.

Senator Moss. We appreciate your doing that, Mr. Lynch. Your remarks will appear in full in the record at the end of your oral comments and you may summarize as you see fit, and make the points that you wish to make particularly emphatic in your statement.

Mr. LYNCH. Thank you, sir.

The primary point that I wish to make at the outset concerns the claims which were filed largely in the year 1966.

The Secretary of the Interior, in his testimony this morning, has referred to these, and various witnesses who have appeared since that time have referred to the problems which have been created by these claims.

I think a few things concerning these claims should be noted. The first thing, which was a little unclear in the Secretary's testimony this morning, is that it is quite clear from an examination of the county records in the counties in which the oil shale deposits, at least in Colorado, are primarily concentrated, in Garfield and Rio Blanco Counties, and that these claims filed in 1966 virtually blanket the entire Piceance Basin or at least those portions of the Piceance Basin which have not previously been patented or on which there were not existing pre-1920 claims. Indeed, there is a considerable overlap between the 1920 claims and the claims filed during the year 1966.

In his testimony this morning, the Secretary indicated that he had recommended that the chairman of this committee introduce legisla-