

technology for public use. So, in addition to a substantial commercial royalty rate, the exactment is imposed of dedication to the public of the technology which is produced. Yet, the regulation appears to provide that only those who do not have other assets or reserves, shall have opportunity to use the public domain.

In urging as we do, that these and other similar requirements render the proposed regulations unusable by industry, we do not mean in any way to suggest that the Department has intended that result. On the contrary, it is apparent that much careful and imaginative labor has gone into the preparation of this first step, with the intention that the result be a constructive program.

In arriving at these proposed regulations, the Department has unavoidably been subject to conflicting pressures from every side, beginning with the conflicting advice offered by the members of the Oil Shale Advisory Board, appointed in 1964. Much of the commentary has, of course, been constructive, but too much of it has been as irresponsible as it is vocal and inaccurate. The specter of Teapot Dome, in which Government officials were found in criminal default, has been resurrected and cited by some commentators, without regard to the whole successful history of Federal mineral leasing which has since taken place.

Without regard to any of the facts, the value of the public domain reserves has been irresponsibly exaggerated, the threat of an imaginative flood of oil disruptive of existing markets has been asserted, and deep concerns have been stated over nonexistent dangers of spoliation of a largely vacant wilderness.

In short, the situation in which the Department has nevertheless had the courage to act is one in which a vocal and ill-informed minority has created an atmosphere of exaggerated mistrust of industry, and of the Department's ability to provide for the public interest. It is perhaps surprising that in such an atmosphere the Department has been able to propose regulations as nearly viable as these.

Senator Moss (presiding). Can you summarize this a little bit more concisely for us? We are running terribly short of time.

Mr. WINSTON. Very well; I was about to close.

What we think is required from the industry, generally, from this committee and others in Congress and the administration, is firm support for the policy on which the Department has begun to act—that the national interest requires that reasonable steps now be taken to foster the orderly development of oil shale production. The facts which we have presented, and which have been urged by others, leads to that conclusion. In our view, it is the most constructive step that the committee can take.

Senator Moss. Thank you very much, Mr. Winston. Your entire statement, as Senator Allott ordered, will, of course, be in the record.

It is a very comprehensive and very thoughtful document, for which we thank you. It does make our record very meaningful. We appreciate all of the fine work that has gone into it. We have much work yet to do in the oil shale industry. I am in full concurrence with your urging that we move ahead and get meaningful production going as soon as we can in this field. I thank you.

I believe that Senator Allott and Senator Hansen have some comments or questions.