

others who have testified before you have touched, and particularly with the concept that in the overall development of our mineral leasing in this country we have well-tried techniques of leasing and handling it, and the fact that this happens to be a little larger resource than any known deposit of any mineral in the country, I think, does not necessarily call for us to move out into experimental methods of handling it and developing it.

I appreciate your statement very much.

Mr. HARDY. Thank you, sir.

Senator Moss. Senator Hansen.

Senator HANSEN. Mr. Chairman, I cannot add anything to the questions which have already been asked and the comments which have been made. You did make a very fine statement and I compliment you on being able to be so precise.

Mr. HARDY. Thank you, Senator Hansen.

Senator Moss. Our next witness will be Mr. Russell Cameron, President of Cameron & Jones, oil shale consultants. Mr. Cameron is also a member of the Governor of Colorado's Oil Shale Advisory Board. We are very happy to have you, Mr. Cameron. You have been in attendance during all of these hearings, and we now look forward to hearing from you.

STATEMENT OF RUSSELL J. CAMERON, PRESIDENT, CAMERON & JONES, INC., DENVER, COLO.

Mr. CAMERON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I have a moderately brief prepared statement which I hope to make even briefer by eliminating certain parts of it in my oral testimony.

Senator Moss. If you are able to do that, the entire statement will be in the record. You highlight it any way you see fit.

Mr. CAMERON. Very good, sir.

Oil shale is beset by many problems—technological, legal, and economic. Some are real; some are not. And I was happy to have Mr. Barry this morning confirm my opinion that dawsonite claims are not one of the real problems. All are compounded by prejudice, emotion, and ignorance. But none are beyond solution.

To solve these problems for the benefit of all concerned, the public not the least, private industry, and all three branches of government have a job to do. Industry must assume, without equivocation, its traditional responsibility for resource development by supplying capital, technology, and management, and government must afford it the opportunity to do so by fair and equitable rules. The Congress must establish, with unmistakable clarity, the policy under which the resource is to be developed. The executive branch must administer these policies with wisdom and justice. The courts must resolve expeditiously the perplexing legal problems that carry over from the past. Only by such measures will the Nation benefit fully from this resource.

Almost everyone agrees that oil shale will be needed by this country to supply a part of its future oil demand. Differences of opinion occur as to timing. Need also is a relative term. Perhaps we don't need shale oil today because there is no actual shortage and we may not lack oil in an absolute sense a decade from now. But what about the strategic value of an oil shale industry at the next interruption of Mideast oil?