

Mr. CAMERON. Thank you.
Senator MOSS. Thank you very much, Mr. Cameron. Your testimony has been good, and we appreciate it. Your prepared statement will be included at this point.
(The statement referred to follows:)

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

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate this opportunity to appear again at your Committee's hearings on oil shale. You may recall that I presented the statement of Mr. Richard T. Eckles for the State of Colorado at your earlier hearings in February of this year. Today I am here as a representative of my company, Cameron and Jones, Inc., an engineering consulting organization that for many years has been engaged in activities relating to the development of oil shale. We also have a strong interest in the conversion of coal into liquid and gaseous fuels and the production of oil from other bituminous minerals such as tar sands. Our staff of about 20 scientists and engineers are specialists in synthetic fuels and ours is one of the largest organizations in this field.

I am a chemical engineer by training and was a member of the staff of the Bureau of Mines oil shale project at Rifle, Colorado from 1948 until 1955. During the last twelve years my company has been consultant for the Brazilian government in its oil shale development program. We have this past year completed the engineering for a 2,500 ton per day semi-commercial oil shale retort now under construction.

We have also served as consultants for various state and Federal agencies of this country and for many private companies, organizations and individuals. I am a member of Governor John A. Love's Oil Shale Advisory Committee and a member and director of the Rocky Mountain Oil and Gas Association whose oil shale committee has carefully studied the problem of leasing the Federal oil shale lands.

Before discussing the leasing of Federal oil shale lands I would like to make a few comments about oil shale in some of its broader aspects.

Oil shale is beset by many problems—technological, legal and economic. Some are real, some are not. 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?

In his press conference August 18, President Johnson correctly and succinctly said that shale oil will play no part in the oil disruption brought on by the current Arab-Israeli conflict. If oil shale is a feasible source of oil, and I believe it is, we should establish this fact and make our billions or trillions of barrels of shale oil an active deterrent to interruptions in oil supply. The tendency toward political unrest many places in the world will increase as our dependence on overseas oil increases and conversely will decrease with the ability to supply our needs from domestic sources.

In my opinion industry is ready to proceed promptly to commercial shale oil production. By beginning large scale operations and by this means only, will we