

the impact upon resources, and the total environment will be done. Also, it appears to us necessary that the Government maintain the title to patents in order that they can at a later date be opened for the use of any and all firms interested in the development of oil shale.

We are dealing with an enormously valuable resource, most of which is publicly owned. We feel we have some appreciation of the dimensions of the problem to see that all parties are fairly compensated for their efforts and property values. Ideally, everyone would like to hope that the policies that are eventually promulgated will provide for a favorable return to the investor, a proper return to the wage earner, an appropriate return to the private owner, and certainly an appropriate return to the consumer.

Whether a special fund is established for the Government to receive the royalties, or whether they should simply be allocated, having first been taken into the general account, is not a matter of principal concern to us. We do feel that the allocation of these royalties, since they represent the holdings of all of the people of the United States, should take cognizance of the most pressing and significant needs. Obviously, our concern is the needed reinvestment in our natural resources.

The difficulty that has been manifested in the last decade of expanding sufficiently needed and important functions of the public sector of the economy should be reevaluated in light of the potential revenue available in properly exploiting our oil shale reserves. A plea should certainly be entered in behalf of needed conservation measures. We have been too little and too late in affecting adequate and prudent natural resource policies. The critical issue of the moment, since the depression years, has seemed to sweep away effective proposals and recommendations for such policies. World War II obviously relegated natural resource matters to quick and hurried exploitation of needed goods and services and an evaluation of our resource base was postponed because of the postwar adjustments. The 1950's ushered in Korea and attendant problems thereto, hence another postponement.

It was not until the 1960's that a renewed effort was made to refurbish, restore and protect a significant part of our natural heritage. Even with the expansion of National Parks, public recreation, and the protection of soil, air and water, our efforts to date continue to lag. The establishment of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which was a means to finance Federal acquisition of needed recreation lands and lend financial support to the States for development and acquisition of recreation areas, was a good beginning.

Though this was landmark legislation, it was recognized very early after its passage that it could not meet all the needs that became more and more evident. The value of projects in this area now authorized by the Congress but not yet funded approximates \$500,000,000. If we are to approximate our stated goals and realized objectives then this fund must be increased significantly in the very near future, for the ability to acquire the necessary land will be possible only within a short time period. We feel that the postponement of needed Federal expenditures in the past can be rectified in great measure by an allocation from oil shale revenues.

The present distribution of revenues from the public lands are allocated as follows:

1. 52½% to the Federal Reclamation Fund
2. 37½% to the States involved for general education
3. 10% to the Federal Government

We feel this formula should be revised to reflect the National interests. We are not suggesting any precise formula at this time because of the hazard of ascertaining with any certainty the exact amount of revenues available. We are aware that the needs of education in urban areas, as well as many other segments of our society, should benefit from these revenues. We are asking here, however, that full consideration be given to the much postponed considerations of effective natural resource policies and which have been forgone for so long.

We do not oppose the proper development of oil shale. We feel the revenues will be helpful for all concerned. We reiterate, however, that this great potential also can bring destruction and adverse environmental consequences can diminish significantly any net gain that may be realized by society. We have sufficient time for developing prudent procedures in developing this resource and we will err badly and irrevocably if we act precipitously.