

SALINE WATER CONVERSION PROGRAM

FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 1971

U.S. SENATE,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER RESOURCES
OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 10 a.m., in room 3110, New Senate Office Building, Senator Clinton P. Anderson (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Senators Anderson, Allott, Jordan, and Fannin.

Also present: Senator Bellmon.

Staff members present: Jerry T. Verkler, staff director; William J. Van Ness, chief counsel; Daniel Dreyfus, professional staff member; and Charles Cook, minority counsel.

Senator ANDERSON. The hearing will come to order.

The purpose of this hearing before the Water and Power Resources Subcommittee this morning is to take testimony on two measures concerning the Federal saline water conversion program.

S. 716, which was submitted by the Department of the Interior, would authorize an appropriation of \$27,025,000 for the program for fiscal year 1972.

S. 991, which was introduced by Senators Jackson and Allott and myself would extend the saline water program for 5 more fiscal years beyond fiscal year 1972 and make a number of changes in the administration of the work. This bill is based upon the progress reports of the Office of Saline Water and the hearings which this committee held last year.

Today we expect to review the status of the program and the proposed activities for fiscal year 1972 and the future.

The texts of the two bills and the relevant executive communications will be included in the record at this point.

(The documents referred to follow:)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D.C., January 29, 1971.

HON. SPIRO T. AGNEW,
President of the Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: Enclosed is a draft of a proposed bill "To authorize appropriations for the Saline Water Conversion Program for fiscal year 1972, and for other purposes."

We recommend that the bill be referred to the appropriate Committee for consideration, and we recommend that it be enacted. This Department's Office of Saline Water (OSW) has made considerable progress in the development of practical, low-cost methods for producing fresh water from saline, brackish, and other mineralized or chemically-charged waters. It has fostered the development of desalting technology and has encouraged water planners and the desalting