

that were at all interested. They were minor in nature compared to the work that was being done in other countries.

Senator FANNIN. Now, back to geothermal or whatever might be possible—I know we have had testimony from Dr. Robert Rex, I think of the University of California at Riverside. He was very optimistic as to the potentiality. I understand that we do have research programs with the University of California at Riverside. Is that going forward?

Mr. SMITH. Yes, sir; that is with the Bureau of Reclamation.

Mr. O'MEARA. We have a program with the University of California at Berkeley to begin to examine what processes might be applicable to the geothermal brines; yes, sir.

Senator FANNIN. Are these programs going forward in other schools? I know the University of Arizona did have a program on the—I do not think it was on atomic energy.

Mr. O'MEARA. Solar energy.

Senator FANNIN. That is right; a plant that they built with Mexico. That plant is still operating, is it not?

Mr. O'MEARA. Yes, sir.

Senator FANNIN. Are we still considering the plant on the gulf that has been talked about with Mexico? The atomic energy plant in connection with a water program?

Mr. SMITH. There are at present going on some continuing low-level studies—low-profile studies—with the Government of Mexico and with the Atomic Energy Commission and the Bureau of Reclamation and the Office of Saline Water to get a better feel for whether or not such a project might be feasible as a joint venture with the country of Mexico.

Senator FANNIN. As I remember Dr. Rex's testimony, it was to the effect that Mexico perhaps had gone forward more rapidly than we have as far as geothermal steam is concerned. Is that still the case?

Mr. SMITH. Well, to the degree that they are actually using it on a production basis; I would suspect you are correct at Rosarito, for example.

Senator FANNIN. But we are still cooperating with them, benefiting jointly with the research in that?

Mr. SMITH. Yes, sir.

Senator FANNIN. Thank you very much.

Our next witness is Mr. Ramey of the Atomic Energy Commission. Thank you very much.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, gentlemen.

STATEMENT OF JAMES T. RAMEY, COMMISSIONER, U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION; ACCOMPANIED BY W. WILLIAMS, JR., CHIEF, DESALTING BRANCH DIVISION OF REACTOR DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY, AEC

Mr. RAMEY. Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, I am very pleased to have the opportunity to appear before you again. You may recall that I have had the pleasure of appearing before this committee on several occasions to discuss the Atomic Energy Commission's program for the use of nuclear energy in the intermediate and large-scale desalting of sea water, and our cooperative endeavors with the Office