

Mr. WRIGHT. But Mr. Dingwall succeeds the able and even revered man in the profession, Mr. DeWitt Greer, and we are delighted to have you with us today and appreciate your testimony.

Mr. Dingwall, I know of your interest in these needed extensions of interstate mileage in Texas. You mentioned Wichita Falls and Lubbock, both, as being well above the 100,000 mark and neither of them is served by an interstate highway.

Would it be your judgment that an east-west highway linking the two of them would be the most feasible means of serving those communities?

Mr. DINGWALL. Mr. Wright, that is a good question, but I think it deserves a great deal more study, than we have put on as of this time.

Mr. WRIGHT. I see. Well, manifestly they both have grown to a point at which they qualify to be served by an interstate highway.

Just one other question. If the committee in its wisdom, its judgment, should see fit to add additional mileage to the Interstate System, do you feel like you could find about 16 miles to connect up that—

Mr. DINGWALL. Mr. Wright, as you well know, we have made application for that upon several occasions as an addition to the 41,000 miles. But additions to the Interstate System have been few and far between and we have never, of course, been able to get it.

Mr. WRIGHT. I know that you had.

Mr. DINGWALL. It would be certainly in the high priority of any 1,500 or other mileage that Texas might receive.

Mr. WRIGHT. Thank you very much.

Mr. DINGWALL. As a matter of fact, that work is so pressing, we have undertaken about 2 miles of that under 50-50 work now, because we did not feel like, due to the need up there, that we could delay that particular section any longer. Some of that went under contract this past month.

Mr. WRIGHT. Thank you very much.

Mr. KLUCZYNSKI. The gentleman from Texas, Mr. Roberts.

Mr. ROBERTS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Dingwall, we like to see you up here. I know you have a job that is out of all proportions, succeeding, first of all, Mr. DeWitt Greer, who assisted you so many years, looking after the tremendous highways of Texas.

Mr. Chairman, when you walk across or ride across the Texas line, you can see the difference in highways, because Mr. Dingwall and Mr. Greer have been building highways to Interstate specifications long before the Federal government ever heard about it.

If we built a road, if we started at Texarkana, and then through Wichita Falls to Lubbock, where would the other terminus be?

Mr. DINGWALL. It would wind up on the west coast, no doubt. Probably there.

Mr. ROBERTS. Even though we have an east-west Interstate going through Dallas and Fort Worth, this would take a lot of the traffic off that highway, particularly your east-west traffic, your east coast traffic going to the west coast? It would drain off a lot of that and people out of the congested area, would it not?

Mr. DINGWALL. It would pick up traffic coming to the east at Texarkana or in that area.