

Chemical Corp., and the current president of the Florida Phosphate Council, Inc.

Mr. Robert Koob, vice president of International Minerals & Chemical, and our Washington representative, is here with me.

The statement I would like to make is made in behalf of the Florida Phosphate Council, Inc., a trade association representing the 12 firms who either mine or chemically process phosphate rock in Florida: Agrico Chemical Co.; Armour Agricultural Chemical Co.; Borden Chemical Co.; Central Farmers Fertilizer Co./Central Phosphates, Inc.; American Cyanamid Co.; Farmland Industries, Inc.; W. R. Grace & Co., Agricultural Products Division; International Minerals & Chemical Corp.; Mobil Chemical Co., Agricultural Chemicals Division; Occidental Corp. of Florida; F. S. Royster Guano Co.; and Swift & Co.

This membership includes most of the phosphate companies in Florida.

Mr. Koob, I believe, has handed you some photographs for the committee's files. I am sorry I don't have very many copies, but they will perhaps be useful.

Senator METCALF. This will be quite all right. They are beautiful photographs and they will be included in the file of the committee for the consideration of the committee.

Mr. Cox. Thank you. The principal areas of operation are Polk and Hillsborough Counties in the central part of the State and in Hamilton County in north Florida.

Phosphate, one of Florida's greatest natural resources, is the basis for one of the State's largest industries, contributing handsomely to the economic importance of the State and its people, providing jobs, payrolls, and business activities which add more than \$200 million a year to the economy of the State.

In order to utilize this valuable mineral—one of the three major components in fertilizer and an important additive in animal feed—it must be recovered from beneath the earth's surface.

Florida's phosphate deposits are found from 5 to 35 feet below the surface and the matrix—ore bearing body—usually measures between 5 and 30 feet in thickness.

Due to the shallow depth involved, the uniform method of mining phosphate rock in this State is through the use of electric draglines in surface mining operation.

Since the purpose of this hearing is to collect information for your use in determining the advisability of invoking statutory measures regarding reclamation of surface mined areas, the remainder of my remarks will be directed generally toward that subject.

Since there are no State laws in Florida now governing reclamation of phosphate mining lands, I will attempt to describe some of the accomplishments of my industry which came about as a result of voluntary, self-disciplined action in this field.

During the 30 or 40 years prior to 1961, reclamation and restoration of mined-over phosphate land had been undertaken from time to time by various companies, but usually with a specific project in mind. However, in 1961, members of the industry who were actively engaged in phosphate mining agreed that a more progressive approach to this matter should be developed. After a great deal of study, a joint statement of policy was approved, which stated: