

lands in the immediate environs of the communities have values of \$1,500 or \$2,000 per acre.

Senator JORDAN. Of course the whole country has experienced rising land values. This is true throughout the whole country, more particularly so perhaps in your area down there.

Mr. Cox. I was very jealous of someone who talked about \$8-an-acre land.

Senator JORDAN. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Senator METCALF. Mr. Cox, I think that everyone on the committee and everyone that is aware of the accomplishments of the phosphate industry commends you for your activity, your initiative in having this voluntary reclamation and restoration of the land.

The work of the industry, as you have described it, is exactly what I think Secretary Udall and I conceive of what we would like to achieve by this legislation. Sometimes you have restored it to agricultural land. Sometimes you have given it to conservation organizations. I serve on the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, which invests duck stamp money for additions to our water fowl refuges, and some of that land has been given to the refuge system. Sometimes it is used, as your pictures so eloquently show, for swimming pools, for recreation areas, for fish and lakes, boating areas, and I do think that you have done an outstanding job.

You merit the commendation of all of us. I doubt if the passage of this legislation would affect you in any way whatsoever. I think you are doing the kind of thing that we are seeking to do in some other areas and had other industries and other mining companies been as forward looking as you are there wouldn't have been any legislation such as this proposed.

I can see that you want to comment.

Mr. Cox. Thank you, Senator Metcalf, for the commendation. Thank you on behalf of the industry. We oppose the present proposed bill, not because we oppose land reclamation. Our record I think is clear. Our record speaks for that.

Senator METCALF. It speaks for itself.

Mr. Cox. We feel that some of the requirements of the bill are not necessary—the necessity for permits, the necessity for submission of detailed preplanning, the administrative routines that will be inherent in such a bill in implementing such a bill. These are the parts of the legislation that we opposed and oppose quite vigorously. We do not oppose the purpose of the bill.

Senator METCALF. Certainly I am grateful for your appearance here and there is a great deal of persuasiveness in your presentation in view of the record of your industry.

Thank you very much.

Mr. Cox. Thank you.

Senator METCALF. Now we will have Mr. Widner and Mr. Spurling of Missouri.

STATEMENT OF S. R. WIDNER AND JOHN SPURLING OF MISSOURI

Mr. WIDNER. Gentlemen, on account of the duplication we are going to throw our notes away. We will file a statement.

We want to talk to you a little bit.