

is glad to hear about, glad to know about, and glad to know about its success.

Thank you very much.

Mr. COYLE. Thank you, sir.

(The letter referred to follows:)

AERIAL SEEDING OF CONTOUR STRIP MINE LAND IN SOUTHEASTERN KENTUCKY—1968

During late February and early March 1968, aerial seeding of contour strip mined land in Kentucky, in counties of Bell, Harlan, and Leslie, was undertaken by Allen Coyle. Mr. Coyle used a mixture of Sericea Lespedeza, Korean Lespedeza, Kentucky 31 Fescue, and Perennial Rye Grass, along with Black Locust tree seed.

Prior to the flight, one foot square cardboard was smeared with grease and placed randomly on the bench and over the outslope. Immediately after the aerial seeding, a ground spot check was made to determine the extent of coverage obtained. All squares had an adequate amount of seed of each species sown.

A follow-up inspection was made in late April to check germination. The Perennial Rye Grass, Korean Lespedeza, and Kentucky 31 Fescue had begun germination and was from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 inch high. The Sericea Lespedeza and Black Locust seed are not expected to germinate until around July 1968.

From observations and inspections made to date, I feel that an adequate cover of grasses, legumes, and trees will be found over the entire disturbed areas aerial seeded by Mr. Coyle.

HERBIE JOHNSON,
Area Supervisor,
Kentucky Division of Reclamation.

April 25, 1968.

Senator METCALF. Mr. Lewis Prater of the Idaho Bureau of Mines.
Senator Jordan.

Senator JORDAN. May I personally welcome Mr. Lewis Prater, who is here representing the Governor of Idaho. I have had copies of the Governor's testimony and I know Mr. Prater will make a good statement for his State.

Senator METCALF. I am glad to hear you as a representative of my neighbor, a representative of two of the members of this committee. Thank you very much.

**STATEMENT OF LEWIS PRATER, IDAHO BUREAU OF MINES,
REPRESENTING THE GOVERNOR OF IDAHO**

Mr. PRATER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My name is Lewis Prater and I present the statement prepared for the Idaho Bureau of Mines by our director, Dr. Rolland R. Reid.

To begin, we wish to express our gratification that Federal agencies have come to recognize the desirability for surface mining and mined land reclamation practices tailored to the individual situation and needs within each of the States.

At the same time, we note that the Surface Mining Reclamation Act of 1968 sets up sweeping changes in both the regulation of surface mining practices and mined land reclamation requirements. Mining operations on private, State, and Federal lands are to be covered. Many of these lands are already controlled under overlapping jurisdictions involving several State and Federal agencies. Conflicting and overlapping responsibilities are common. S. 3132, if enacted, would compound existing difficulties just described.

The Public Land Law Review Commission is currently reviewing the laws and administrative regulations and practices applicable to