

able to attend this hearing up until now, but I do look forward to this testimony.

The phosphate industry is of great importance to the economy of our State and we want to make certain that any regulation of the industry is realistic, both in terms of protecting the public interest in a proper way and permitting the industry to mine without unreasonable impediment. I think that the testimony of these gentlemen will be very helpful to the committee in placing this matter in perspective and in giving us some guidelines as we consider the possibility of legislative action in that field.

Senator METCALF. Senator Jordan.

Senator JORDAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. May I add that these gentlemen have waited patiently. They have been here every minute of the hearing since it started yesterday morning. I am glad we are getting to them and I know that their testimony will be very much worthwhile and a contribution to our record on this important matter.

Don Emigh, whom I have known for many, many years, is chairman of the Phosphate Lands Conference. Ott Power is with the Mineral Development Department of Food Machinery. Dennis Olsen is counsel for the Phosphate Lands Conference.

I understand, Mr. Chairman, they will appear as a panel and Dr. Don Emigh will lead off.

STATEMENT OF G. DONALD EMIGH, CHAIRMAN, PHOSPHATE LANDS CONFERENCE, ACCOMPANIED BY O. A. POWER, MINERAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, FOOD MACHINERY & CHEMICAL CORP., AND DENNIS W. OLSON, COUNSEL FOR PHOSPHATE LANDS CONFERENCE

Mr. EMIGH. Thank you, Senators.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is G. Donald Emigh. I appear as chairman of the Phosphate Lands Conference, an ad hoc group formed in 1966 and composed of western phosphate rock producers. These producers, by the way, are in the States of Utah, Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming.

With me for this presentation, being made on behalf of the Phosphate Lands Conference, are Mr. O. A. Power, on my left, representing another company in our conference, and Mr. Dennis M. Olsen, on my right, counsel for our conference. After a few brief opening remarks, I will call on Mr. Power and Mr. Olsen for additional, more detailed, comments.

Most of us engaged in mining western phosphate do so by surface mining methods. The vast majority of the western phosphate deposits are under the administration of the Department of the Interior and are available for development and production through leases from the Department of the Interior.

In May 1966, the Department of the Interior published in the Federal Register new proposed regulations covering federally leased phosphate deposits the purpose of which was to provide for mined land reclamation.

Those of us mining western phosphate were concerned over many provisions of these proposed regulations which, among other things, we felt went far beyond mined land reclamation.