

of waters, and so forth, are simply not needed as this industry does not do any of these things.

If the Congress passes this bill without making this clear, we are fearful that some States may forget to differentiate between the many different kinds of surface mining. This could result in untold financial hardships.

These, obviously, would have to be passed on to customers of this industry. And, as you know, some of our principal customers are local, county, State and National Governments.

For example, the point I am trying to emphasize is that when regulations are being prepared for water pollution, we certainly should be excluded, as limestone is, as I mentioned before, actually a water purifier.

In conclusion, I would like to quote from the book, "Surface Mining and Our Environment."

Reading from the bottom of page 33, it states:

"Open-pit mining is exemplified by quarries producing limestone, sandstone, marble, * * *".

"Usually, in pen-pit mining, the amount of overburden removed is proportionately small compared with the quantity of ore recovered. Another distinctive feature of open-pit mining of iron ore and other metallics, large quantities of ore are obtained within a relatively small surface area because of the thickness of the deposits * * *."

"Some open pits may be mined for many years—50 or more in fact, a few have been in continuous operation for more than a century."

Within that paragraph, I feel, lies the significant difference between limestone-quarrying operations, or open-pit mining, and "strip mining" operations.

It is a fact that quarries are relatively stable, many with permanent facilities, extracting their product from a small area without disrupting the surrounding community or countryside and without causing pollution to surrounding streams and watersheds.

Therefore, we believe limestone quarries should be excluded from this legislation.

Thank you for the privilege of appearing before you to present these views of the limestone producers of the Nation.

Senator BURDICK. I should also like to welcome Mr. Koch as an old friend of the committee.

Do you have a statement?

Mr. KOCH. No, Senator.

Mr. ZEIGLER. He worked pretty hard on this one, Mr. Chairman.

Senator BURDICK. I have just one question.

How do you handle the overburden now?

Mr. ZEIGLER. When we select a quarry site, in selecting that site we usually try to take the lowest point and bring it up to grade with the overburden.

Now one of the major reasons for electing to put a quarry in is that it has the least amount of overburden. So we don't like overburden, it is nonproductive.

Senator BURDICK. This is generally true of quarries?

Mr. ZEIGLER. Yes, generally true of limestone and aggregate quarries.

Senator BURDICK. Thank you very much.

Mr. ZEIGLER. Thank you very kindly.