

In closing this supplemental statement, I should like to stress again the need for research, to provide the new knowledge that we require. Some representatives of industry mentioned ongoing research within their companies, some State agencies (Minnesota, Colorado) mentioned research being funded by them at universities, and several witnesses stressed that a valid Federal operational area in this matter is by carrying out inhouse research and by funding extramural research. This testimony magnificently reinforces the thrust of my earlier prepared statement—and the plea of James Cox of the Floride Phosphate Council—that we need new knowledge.

If Federal legislation were to be enacted, a major effort should be directed toward carrying out research and demonstration activities within the agencies, and in providing funds for research by other organizations. And, certainly, a periodic review of these research results would be of immeasurable benefit in helping the industry achieve its objective of providing the Nation with its needed mineral resources, while at the same time enabling us to live with the results of our attaining this affluent society, by conserving the beauty of our environment.

Thank you?

Senator METCALF. Unless there is objection at the present time, I am going to pass over the next witness, Mr. Peplow, temporarily and call on Mr. Roger Tippy, assistant conservation director of the Izaak Walton League. Mr. Tippy? Well, we will pass over Mr. Tippy, too.

Mr. Auvil, I thank you, too, for your patience in waiting.

Mr. AUVIL. Thank you, sir.

Senator METCALF. We are glad to have you before the committee.

**STATEMENT OF JESSE H. AUVIL, JR., CHIEF GEOLOGIST, GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND MINING, ATLANTA**

Mr. AUVIL. Mr. Chairman, my name is Jesse H. Auvil. I am chief geologist of the Georgia Department of Mines, Mining, and Geology. This title carries with it the duties of deputy director of the department and assistant State geologist.

Professionally, I am both a registered mining engineer and certified geologist. I was a member of the Georgia Legislative Study Committee which drafted our strip mining legislation.

The most onerous facet of the legislation under consideration here at the Federal level and the thing that frightens us most is the overwhelming power over the surface mining industry which would be vested in one individual; namely, the Secretary of the Interior.

This bill would take away completely the State's right to administer its own affairs in the area of surface mining. True, the bill says that the States have the initial responsibility, but voids this immediately by going on to say—only with the approval of the Secretary.

The bill further goes on to say that the Secretary may appoint an advisory committee but does not say shall, nor does it say that the Secretary shall be governed or regulated by such a committee. What has happened to checks and balances for which our Government has long been noted?

We in Georgia have recognized the problem and the need to regulate and control surface mining. We have accepted the responsibility as evidenced by the enactment of legislation which created the mined land use board to control surface mining and the reclamation of mined lands.

This board is empowered to administer and enforce the provisions of the act and all rules, regulations, and orders promulgated thereunder.