

Next is the Honorable E. Ross Adair.

**STATEMENT OF E. ROSS ADAIR, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS  
FROM THE STATE OF INDIANA**

Mr. ADAIR. Mr. Chairman, I thank you and the members of your committee for the opportunity of submitting a statement concerning the Big Walnut Valley project in my home State of Indiana.

First of all, I wish to register strong objections to a flood control project of the U.S. Corps of Engineers which in my opinion would inundate and destroy the natural beauty of parts of the valley.

The committee also has heard from several Hoosier conservationists, including the Izaak Walton League representative from our State, expressing similar views.

It is our contention that the project as presently designed by the corps would encroach upon the natural beauty and recreational features of the Big Walnut Valley. We believe that there are several acceptable alternatives which could be agreed upon by the corps and the conservationists without sacrificing the basic features of the area. These have been under discussion by the parties involved.

Therefore, I am hopeful that you will see fit to preserve the integrity of this area as it is recognized by the National Registry of Natural Landmarks program. I am sure that with further study the Corps of Engineers can adapt their water control project to this situation without unreasonable adjustments. In that way, we will be able to achieve an excellent park area and also provide for the flood control measures the corps indicates that it needs.

Mr. JONES. Our next witness is the Honorable Richard Ottinger.

**STATEMENT OF CONGRESSMAN RICHARD L. OTTINGER, A MEMBER  
OF CONGRESS, FROM THE STATE OF NEW YORK**

Mr. OTTINGER. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to appear before you today. I know that you have a crowded schedule, and so will confine my statement to a very short description of my concern with respect to the adequacy of the planning that has gone into the Big Walnut Valley project.

Cost-benefit analysis is a process with a number of deficiencies; this is not to say that the process should be discarded, but it suggests that the method should not be accepted uncritically.

I have written to the Corps of Engineers on two separate occasions to ask questions about the values assigned to preserving the site of the Big Walnut Valley Reservoir in its present condition and on alternatives considered. The first inquiry was answered with an inadequate and unresponsive form letter. The second, dated over a month ago, was totally ignored. With your permission, I will include the texts of my two letters in the record, together with the unresponsive Corps of Engineers answer to my first letter.

My concern was then and remains now that insufficient concern is given in the planning of many projects to the values that these projects would necessarily destroy. I feel that some consideration of these factors should be given in the cost analysis stage, and as far