

We urge approval of this project in its entirety without distinction. We hope that it will be considered on its benefit-cost ratio, 1.3, as an entire project and no mention made of any segmentation for restudy of any part of the project.

It is our belief that industry attracted to our area will be far better pleased when presented a prospectus which shows an approved plan where navigation will come and not a prospectus that says navigation will come if restudy justifies it. This is sort of like locating an industry on the street. If he has assurance the street will be a paved one, he will locate on that one rather than the one where there is to be a study of if one is to be paved.

We ask the privilege of filing the statements for the editors I have named. It was in 1883 that the Federal Government started out to help us with the navigation on the Cypress River, where there was a log jam up above Shreveport that was blasted and the river made navigable.

Mr. WRIGHT. I hope it will not be this much longer.

Mr. JONES. Thank you.

Mr. MATTHIAS. Our next witness, Mr. Chairman, speaking for the Texans in the area, Mr. Howard Willingham, representing the cities in the area of Texarkana.

Mr. WRIGHT. Mr. Willingham, it is good to have you.

Mr. WILLINGHAM. I am Howard Willingham, representing the two cities of Texarkana, and I have a short prepared statement that I would like to present for the record on behalf of the seven counties in the southwestern Arkansas and northeastern Texas adjacent to the project area.

We endorse the Corps of Engineers report and urge the authorization of the project in its entirety.

Mr. WRIGHT. Thank you, very much.

Mr. MATTHIAS. Mr. Chairman, that concludes our witnesses. However, there may be some statements from the large audience in attendance that wish to file statements for the record. I so request that permission.

Mr. WRIGHT. Mr. Matthias, that will be granted and, without objection, the statement of any of those appearing in connection with this project desiring to make a statement may be included in the record.

Mr. MATTHIAS. Thank you, very much, Mr. Wright.

PORT JEFFERSON HARBOR, N.Y.

Mr. WRIGHT. Congressman Otis Pike, will you come forward, please?

STATEMENT OF HON. OTIS PIKE, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Mr. PIKE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. WRIGHT. You are appearing now in connection with the Port Jefferson Harbor project in New York?

Mr. PIKE. That is correct, Mr. Chairman. I apologize for not having a prepared statement, but I will be very succinct in my remarks.

Mr. WRIGHT. You always are and we are delighted to hear you in any manner in which you desire to proceed.