

would be hurt by allowing States to regulate industries within their borders where all of their facilities are located, where the companies don't get any power across direct lines, where they don't contract with any companies outside to bring in power, this claim fails. So I think we simply need a restatement to the Commission that this is what the Congress intended. We have had to do this with other regulatory agencies, this committee itself has taken action, as you know, where regulatory bodies tried to expand their authority and even without a unanimous vote of the regulatory body.

I think on a three-to-two decision the Federal Power Commission is saying, "We ought to have this authority," even though the Congress hasn't acted, and I think it is time for us to tell the agencies when we want them to get into these fields which the Congress has preempted them from, where it is wholly intrastate.

We will tell them when to do it, the Congress will, and it is not for the agency to decide. This basically is what the bill does, Mr. Chairman.

It sets it forth very clearly. I think it is a simple bill and I appreciate the consideration that this committee is giving to us today.

Mr. MACDONALD. Thank you very much, Mr. Rogers, for a very fine statement. The one question that I had was the relationship between the Florida company and that of the Georgia Power Co.

Is there now or will there be any interconnection between the two?

Mr. ROGERS. I will let other witnesses explain the details, but let me say this. There is no direct connection between the Florida Power & Light Co. and any company outside. They do have an interconnection which the FPC asked during war years these companies to put in for emergency measures.

The Commission said, "In case of emergency we want you to make an interconnection," but this is wholly an intrastate connection over to Florida Power Co.

Now, it is true that Florida Power has a connection with Georgia, as I recall, but everything that comes across the State there is regulated and will be by the Federal Power Commission, so there is regulation of all electricity that comes into the State any time it crosses that line, so they have jurisdiction of all the power that crosses into the State.

Mr. MACDONALD. We had a bad experience in New England, as I am sure you are aware—

Mr. ROGERS. Yes.

Mr. MACDONALD (continuing). During the so-called Northeast blackout which paralyzed a good part of the section of the country that I come from, and I was wondering if it wouldn't be a good thing to have an interconnection with backup.

Mr. ROGERS. They have an emergency connection where they can be helpful if they need to, which was put in at the encouragement of the Commission during war years, but the blackout situation I think doesn't go to this problem at all.

Passing this bill has no effect on that. In fact, I think that can be gone into by experts, but I know this is sometimes said to confuse the issue, "Well, what about the blackouts? Maybe this will have some effect on blackouts."

Well, it doesn't at all. In fact if those companies had left their switches open they wouldn't have had the problem at all.

Mr. MACDONALD. Mr. Broyhill?