

Mr. ROGERS. They are elected.

Mr. VAN DEERLIN. They are elected by the people?

Mr. ROGERS. Yes.

Mr. VAN DEERLIN. In direct popular election?

Mr. ROGERS. That is correct.

Mr. FASCELL. We don't know whether it is popular or not.

Mr. GURNEY. They are all Democrats, I might say. It must be popular.

Mr. MACDONALD. The committee will be in order.

Mr. VAN DEERLIN. It differs from California.

Mr. ROGERS. We hope California will change their system.

Mr. VAN DEERLIN. I hope that I can induce some cross-country thinking on the air pollution bill tomorrow.

What would be the effect of your bill on the interdependent grid system which is supposed to be developed to prevent blackouts from occurring in any part of the country?

Mr. ROGERS. I don't think it will have any effect at all. I don't think it changes the situation at all.

Mr. VAN DEERLIN. The reserves would still be available to be called upon?

Mr. ROGERS. You see, they have emergency connections that they don't use but can if a national emergency or something develops, so it can be used, and I think this is advisable and this is what the companies were encouraged to do and no one ever said because they encouraged them to do that during the war years that, "Therefore, we are going to grab out and get jurisdiction of you," and yet this is exactly what the FPC is trying to do. That is basically it.

Mr. VAN DEERLIN. Do you think the passage of this legislation would have any bearing on rates to consumers?

Mr. ROGERS. Yes, I think it definitely will have a bearing on rates and a reduction of rates rather than an increase because, for instance, if this company in Florida that is intrastate has to go through and simply another accounting system put on, it is estimated it is going to cost them \$6 million in the first instance and about \$600,000 annually for additional employees to send all the reports up here, and you know those will then have to be passed on to the consumer.

They can get into the details of this and the cost with you, but it is my understanding that this is simply an additional cost which will have to be borne by the consumer.

Mr. VAN DEERLIN. You would be doing nothing except preparing reports for the Federal Power Commission?

Mr. ROGERS. That is basically it.

Mr. VAN DEERLIN. Very interesting. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. MACDONALD. Mr. Brotzman?

Mr. BROTZMAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. ROGERS. May I just say this?

Mr. BROTZMAN. Do you want me to yield to you?

Mr. ROGERS. If the gentleman will yield 1 minute.

Mr. BROTZMAN. I yield.

Mr. ROGERS. For those who were not here I just want to read these figures again quickly, if I may, as to what State commissions have done in reducing prices to the consumer and what the Federal Power Commission has done as to reducing prices to the consumer.