

We have received a letter from their attorney advising us that they have no views to add beyond those expressed at the district engineers hearing of last February. Without objection, copies of the subcommittee's letters to the permittee, and their attorney's response, will be included in the record.

(The information follows:)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
NATURAL RESOURCES AND POWER SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,
Washington, D.C., June 12, 1968.

HOWARD P. HOFFMAN ASSOCIATES, INC.,
New York, N.Y.

GENTLEMEN: This subcommittee will hold hearings beginning June 24, at 10 a.m. in room 2203, in the Rayburn House Office Building, in Washington, D.C., concerning a permit issued to you on May 29, 1968, by the Army Corps of Engineers. The permit authorized you to construct bulkheads and fill in a part of the Hunting Creek estuary near Alexandria, Va. Enclosed is a copy of a press release about that hearing.

The subcommittee will hear witnesses concerning the effect of the proposed construction on wildlife and recreation values at Hunting Creek. You may desire to present your views to the subcommittee, either by submitting a statement for the record, or by having your representative testify personally. If the latter, we would appreciate your letting us know the name, address, and telephone number of the person whom you desire to testify for you at the hearing, so that we can schedule the time of his appearance.

Sincerely,

ROBERT E. JONES,
Chairman, Natural Resources and Power Subcommittee.

[Copies also sent to Stanley I. Bregman, Esq., 1225 19th St. NW., Washington, D.C. 20036; and Edward S. Holland, Holland Engineering Co., 110 North Royal St., Alexandria, Va. 22300.]

NEWS RELEASE OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

The Natural Resources and Power Subcommittee of the House Government Operations Committee will hold hearings concerning the issuance of a permit to bulkhead and fill part of the Potomac estuary near Alexandria, Va., Chairman Robert E. Jones (Democrat of Alabama) announced today.

The permit was issued by the Army Corps of Engineers on May 29, 1968, to Howard P. Hoffman Associates, Inc., over the protests of numerous conservation organizations. It authorizes the filling of an area of approximately 9 acres in the shape of a truncated wedge jutting out into an arm of the Potomac, known as Hunting Creek, just west of the Jones Point recreation area. The landfill will be on the river side of the Mount Vernon Memorial Parkway downstream from Woodrow Wilson Bridge.

Hunting Creek is a wintering ground for diving ducks and other waterfowl. According to the Fish and Wildlife Service as many as 10,000 scaup and ruddy ducks have been observed in the general area, together with other species of wild ducks, geese, and swans. The proposed fill was originally opposed by the National Park Service and the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife of the Department of the Interior. The objections of the National Park Service, based on possible conflict of property rights, were met by the applicant, and the objections of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife were overruled by an Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

In issuing the permit the Corps of Engineers relied on the Interior Department's withdrawal of its objections concerning the permit's effect on wildlife. The subcommittee hearing will begin at 10 a.m. in room 2203 of the Rayburn House Office Building on Monday, June 24, 1968.

Other members of the Jones subcommittee are Congressmen John S. Monagan, Democrat, of Connecticut; J. Edward Roush, Democrat, of Indiana; John E. Moss, Democrat, of California; Guy Vander Jagt, Republican, of Michigan; Gilbert Gude, Republican, of Maryland; and Paul N. McCloskey, Jr., Republican, of California.

Hon. William L. Dawson, Democrat, of Illinois, is chairman of the full Committee on Government Operations.