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MAY 20 1975



ENERGY RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

Office of
Congressional Relations

May 19, 1975

NOTE TO JACK MARSH

FROM: Holly Cantus

The attached list shows: 33 Committees
 65 Subcommittees
 1 Panel

each of which could exercise some jurisdictional claim on ERDA. To date we have appeared before 6 full committees and 27 subcommittees (of 13 different Committees).

As you might surmise, I have some strong views on the advisability/desirability of establishing standing Congressional Committees on Energy.

Attachment



COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS HAVING SOME JURISDICTIONAL CLAIM OVER ERDA:
(*Indicates ERDA witnesses appeared this year)

A. SENATE

1. *Aeronautical and Space Sciences
2. Agriculture and Forestry
 - a. Environment, Soil Conservation, and Forestry
3. Appropriations
 - a. Defense
 - * b. Interior
 - * c. Public Works
4. Armed Services
 - a. Arms Control
 - * b. Research and Development
5. Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs
 - a. Small Business
 - b. Housing
6. Budget
7. Commerce
 - a. Environmental
 - b. Oceans and Atmosphere
 - c. Oil and Gas Production and Distribution
 - * d. Science Technology and Commerce
 - e. Surface Transportation
8. Finance
 - a. Energy
 - b. International Trade
 - c. International Finance and Resources
9. Foreign Relations
10. Government Operations
 - * a. Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Export Reorganization
 - b. Intergovernmental Relations
 - c. Investigations
 - * d. Oversight Procedures
11. *Interior and Insular Affairs
 - *a. Energy Research and Water Resources
 - b. Environment and Land Resources
 - c. Minerals, Materials and Fuels
 - d. Integrated Oil Operations
12. Judiciary
 - a. Patents, Trademarks and Copyrights
13. Labor and Public Welfare
 - a. Health
14. Public Works
 - a. Environmental Pollution
 - 1) Panel on Environmental Science and Technology
 - b. Buildings and Grounds
 - c. Water Resources

- 15. Select Committee on Intelligence Activities
- 16. *Select Committee on Small Business
 - a. Environmental, Rural and Urban Economic Development

B. JOINT COMMITTEES

- 17. *Atomic Energy
 - *a. Agreements for Cooperation
 - *b. Communities
 - c. ERDA, Environment and Safety
 - d. ERDA, Nuclear Energy
 - *e. Legislation
 - f. National Security
 - *g. Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Breeder Reactors
- 18. *Economic
- 19. Printing

C. HOUSE COMMITTEES

- 20. Agriculture
 - a. Conservation and Credit
- 21. Appropriations
 - *a. Defense
 - *b. Interior
 - *c. Public Works
- 22. Armed Services
 - a. Research and Development
 - *b. Seapower and Strategic & Critical Materials
- 23. Budget
- 24. Government Operations
 - *a. Conservation, Energy and Natural Resources
 - b. Intergovernmental Relations and Human Resources
 - c. Legislation and National Security
- 25. Interior and Insular Affairs
 - *a. Energy and the Environment
 - b. Mines and Mining
 - c. Water and Power Resources
- 26. International Relations
 - a. Future Foreign Policy, Research and Development
 - b. International Organizations
 - c. International Resources, Food, and Energy
 - d. International Trade and Commerce
- 27. Interstate and Foreign Commerce
 - a. Energy and Power
 - b. Health and Environment
 - *c. Transportation and Commerce

- 28. Judiciary
 - a. Administrative Law and Governmental Relations
- 29. Merchant Marine and Fisheries
 - a. Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation and the Environment
- 30. Public Works and Transportation
 - a. Public Buildings and Grounds
 - *b. Surface Transportation
- 31. *Science and Technology
 - *a. ERDD
 - *b. ERDD (Fossil Fuels)
 - *c. Environment and the Atmosphere
 - d. Science, Research and Technology
- 32. Small Business
 - a. Energy and Environment
- 33. Select Committee on Intelligence

May 19, 1975



DEC 15 1975

December 13, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF

SUBJECT: Energy

During the House debate on the ERDA bill this week, Representative Jim Wright was very critical of the Democrats performance on energy this year.

Wright, as Chairman of the House task force on Energy, reports the Democrats have not done one thing they promised.

A copy of Wright's comments are attached.

bcc: ~~Marsh~~
Cheney
Hartmann
Zarb
Theis
Seidman
Greenspan



gress has made this year to develop new energy supplies for the nation.

Last February, the Democratic leadership of the House and Senate issued a joint report calling for a wide range of vigorous actions to move our country rapidly and resolutely in the direction of energy sufficiency.

A few but by no means all of the initiatives mandated in that call for action have been accomplished in this session of the Congress.

In total candor, I must say as chairman of the House Task Force which helped put together that comprehensive program that what began as a thrilling and dramatic enterprise has degenerated at times into a farcical comedy of frustrations.

Too often the Congress has been simply unwilling to make the hard decisions and take the difficult steps necessary to achieve energy sufficiency for the United States.

Too frequently a majority of our Members has appeared so preoccupied with the next election as to forget about the next generation.

We have frittered away much of the year in quibbling and quarreling and petty bickering about little things.

This is the only bill to come before us that carries out the basic mandate to get something moving and impel this country significantly forward toward energy independence.

In February the Democratic leadership of the House and Senate published a document in which we made promises to the American public that this Democratic Congress was going to move forcefully to reduce our reliance upon foreign energy resources.

We have not done those things, my colleagues. Let me just recite to the Members some of the things that were mandated in that report.

"Strong measures * * * we said so boldly * * * "Strong measures are needed to encourage the conversion to environmentally sound coal use."

That report speaks of "tax credits, loan programs" and other incentives to industry to invest in the necessary facilities. It goes on to say, "A commercial demonstration of new synthetic fuels from coal should be undertaken with an ultimate production goal reaching the equivalent of 500,000 barrels of oil per day."

Mr. HECHLER of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WRIGHT. I will yield to my friend from West Virginia.

Mr. HECHLER of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I was proud to serve along with my colleague, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. McCORMACK) on that task force.

Mr. WRIGHT. That is what surprises me so much, I say to the gentleman. Why is he now opposing those very things the task force recommended?

Mr. HECHLER of West Virginia. Is it not correct that this task force recommended an organization similar to the War Production Board in World War II—a National Energy Production Board

for the commercial production of these synthetics, rather than turning the money over to private companies through a loan guarantee?

Mr. WRIGHT. It did recommend such a Board as that, among other things, but not exclusively. And it did not make its other recommendations contingent upon the creation of such a Board. It also recommended loans, and it recommended tax credits, and it recommended "joint ventures with industry" and it recommended "sufficient Federal financial support to proceed immediately." I emphasize the word "immediately."

We have had all year, I say to my colleague. We have not done one truly substantial thing to increase energy supplies.

The gentleman from New York, I think, said, where is the urgency? That is the essential question. I think we desperately need a sense of urgency.

In 1952, the Policy Commission said that we should do these very things. There was no sense of urgency then, and we did not do them. What must we do, wait until the crisis has us by the throat?

An energy crisis is approaching. It is as inevitable as tomorrow's sunset. Unless we prepare for it, its impact could be positively crippling to the American economy and to our accustomed living standards.

That crisis will arrive not in the wake of some new Arab oil embargo but 12 or 15 or 20 years from now when in our voracious thirst for power we shall have eaten our way through the world's finite resources of petroleum.

When that time comes, the quality of our statesmanship will be judged by the extent to which we shall have exhibited the vision to have brought into being the actual production of synthetic energy replacements in sufficient quantity to meet our needs.

In the intermediate run, that means coal. In the longer run, it means power from solar and geothermal and other exotic sources.

This bill presently before us is the first bold step in hastening the day when we shall have power from those sources.

We have enough coal in this country to last us for several hundred years. By known technology, in conversion plants of sufficient size, we already could be producing synthetic fuel oil for somewhere in the range of \$9 a barrel.

The only roadblock is that any plant of the required capacity will cost several hundred million dollars. Without some encouragement and some assurance from Government, private investors simply do not exist who can commit such massive capital outlays.

What in Heaven's name are we waiting for?

Throughout the 1960's this Nation arose to a far more audacious challenge and invested far vaster expenditures of public funds in space exploration. Bold enough to venture, we accomplished our goal.

Which is more important to us? Outer space, or the future economic independence of the United States?

As I have said, the Paley Commission

appointed by President Truman warned us of the coming energy shortage in 1952 or 1953 and recommended the very things this bill provides. But Congress could muster no sense of urgency. Now it is 22 years later, and a sense of urgency is imperative.

Other less wealthy nations are moving ahead. South Africa has already invested more than \$1 billion in coal liquefaction facilities expected to produce more than 70,000 barrels of synthetic crude oil daily. Our gross national product is 44 times theirs. An equivalent effort on our part would be \$44 billion, enough to cut our national deficiency and our level of imports roughly in half.

Yet we quibble and quarrel today about \$6 billion in Government loan guarantees to stimulate American industry to an effort which, compared to our financial means, is less than one-seventh as bold.

This bill which Chairman TEAGUE and his committee have brought to us from conference builds upon our own successful example during World War II. With our sources of rubber cut off by the Japanese, we wasted no time in timid equivocation. We moved quickly and forcefully to build a synthetic rubber industry.

Must we wait until crisis has us by the throat?

The bill before us is in the best American tradition of government and industry working together to meet the Nation's needs.

It is the one approach on which the Congress and the President can agree.

It is our one remaining chance to produce a truly meaningful national energy initiative before this year expires.

May future historians not have to lament that we were too timid to attack the problem, too quarrelsome to get together, and too petty to act.

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WRIGHT. I yield to the gentleman from Washington.

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, I want to associate myself explicitly and in every detail with the remarks of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WRIGHT).

Mr. Speaker, I want to say that, while the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. HECHLER) is correct, that our committee did recommend an Energy Production Board, it did not do so exclusively. As the gentleman in the well (Mr. WRIGHT) has so succinctly stated, it recommend a whole series of options, one of which we are considering today.

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman has said that we have taken no action.

If we enact this legislation today, we will be enacting the most important energy bill this Congress has ever undertaken, and this will be the first major step forward out of the energy crisis.

Mr. WRIGHT. I agree with the gentleman emphatically.

Mr. BOLLING. Mr. Speaker, I urge a vote on the rule, so that we may proceed with the 2 hours of consideration on general debate of the conference report.

Mr. Speaker, I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 26, 1976

MEETING WITH DR. SEAMANS AND DR. CURRIE

Monday, April 26, 1976
12:30-12:45 p. m. (15 minutes)
The Oval Office

From: Jack Marsh



I. PURPOSE

To obtain from Bob Seamans of ERDA and Mal Currie of Defense their views and suggestions on the possible hydrogen converter invention brought to the President's attention by Senator Goldwater.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

A. Background

1. This meeting arises out of a phone conversation you had with Senator Goldwater who requested that an invention relating to the conversion of water to hydrogen be investigated by key persons in the Administration. This invention, if proven, would be an energy breakthrough of immense proportions, but the Senator also recognizes the opportunity for a gigantic hoax. The Senator specifically requested the involvement of Bob Seamans of ERDA and Mal Currie, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research and Development. The Senator has spoken with both of these individuals on the same subject by phone.
2. This possible invention by Sam Leach is the subject of much interest, speculation and some controversy as to its validity. This is more fully described in the attached articles from Newsweek and the Wall Street Journal which describe the proposal and some of the controversy.



3. It is essential that you are aware of a caveat that urges considerable caution in how this subject is approached. This caveat relates to the current SEC interest in the Presley Company which is backing the development of the converter and the charge of stock manipulation which press accounts say has caused the SEC to suspend trading on the stock.
4. In addition to a discussion of the issue, the meeting should reach some conclusion as to how next to proceed. Because of the sensitivity of the matter, it is recommended that final steps be based on the guidance of legal counsel -- that Federal interest be very indirect with no disclosure of this high level discussion.

B. Participants

Dr. Robert C. Seamans, Jr., Administrator, Energy
Research and Development Administration (ERDA)

Dr. Malcolm Currie, Assistant Secretary of Defense,
Research and Development

Jack Marsh

Ed Schmults, Counsel's Office

C. Press Plan -- No announcement of meeting, no photo

III. TALKING POINTS

1. This meeting arises out of Senator Goldwater's call and you are not well informed as to the project he described.
2. You told the Senator you would meet with Seamans and Currie and you are aware they have also talked with Senator Goldwater but their knowledge is also somewhat limited.
3. You feel it is more likely to be an ERDA interest as opposed to Defense.



4. It is a sensitive matter in which the SEC is involved and, therefore, even if there is a recommendation to proceed, it must be done with great caution and with the advice of Counsel.
5. Ask Seamans and Currie to tell you what they know about the project and finally get their recommendation as to what they think should be done.
6. In closing request there not be a discussion of this meeting to avoid any speculation either as to the merits of the invention or to the stock.



WALL STREET JOURNAL, FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1976

Hydrogen Converter Hasn't Been Proven By Tests, Presley Says

By a WALL STREET JOURNAL Staff Reporter

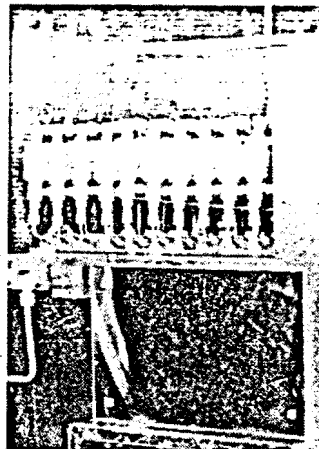
NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. — Presley Cos.

said initial tests of the so-called hydrogen

Presley said claims for the converter include that it doesn't "consume significant amounts of external energy nor does it exhaust some internal fuel supply." It added that "to the best of our knowledge, neither of these claims has been proven by any test results."

Presley said Mr. Mann plans to meet with researchers from Smith-Emery Co., a Los Angeles concern that also tested the

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Mirkin and the mysterious man or a violation of

INVENTIONS:

Sam Leach's Box

"It's the greatest thing since sex"

scientists have had for decades: an unlimited supply of clean energy for homes, autos and industry at practically no cost. If he's not telling the truth, it could be the biggest business scam since hundreds were bilked by the promoter of the nonexistent Dale automobile.

Leach says his device is really quite simple. Inside the case is an unidentified reactant metal. Tap water is fed into the case and an electric charge is applied.

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1. G' water contact

A. willing to test.

B. Determine Leach

attitude

C. Believer to U.S.

representation to test

D. Respect proprietary

interest.

2.



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