

The original documents are located in Box 128, folder “Jan. 22, 1974 - Statement Regarding Energy Crisis” of the Gerald R. Ford Vice Presidential Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

STATEMENT BY VICE PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD

For Release at 10 a.m., Jan. 22, 1974



The energy crisis is the number one concern of Americans today. That is evident from the reports brought back to Washington by members of Congress who have recently visited with their constituents back home.

Congressional committees have begun hearings to determine whether the energy crisis is real or contrived. I personally believe the crisis is painfully real, but I believe the Congress should carry out constructive investigations and in the most expeditious fashion.

It is absolutely imperative that the American people be given the facts as to the oil shortage and as to the effects of the Arab embargo both on the supplies and prices of fuel.

Unsubstantiated charges threaten to destroy the superb cooperation now being demonstrated by the American people in dealing with the energy crisis. Whether or not the crisis is as severe as believed by some, it is a healthy development that Americans have abandoned their wasteful habits of the past and are bending every effort to conserve energy.

It is vital that the Congress immediately review the energy legislation left hanging at the end of the last session.

The Congress should act quickly to adopt legislation aimed at preventing windfall profits for the oil industry and legislation which will give Energy Czar William Simon the authority to obtain full information from the oil companies as to supplies and prices. This information is vital for the short haul and for long-term planning.

The sooner the public confusion about the energy problem can be cleared up, the better it will be for all of us.

#